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THE

Pictorial Times

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TO OUR READERS.

When we last week besought of the reader his favourable allowance for many errors and many omissions, we were very far from conceiving that we should have to draw so largely upon his indulgence. We could not have anticipated the probability of so many accidents — so many "untoward events" — as, from a variety of circumstances, beset the commencement of our labours; and consequently delayed the publication of "The Pictorial Times" beyond the time fixed upon for its customary issue. Hence, numberless copies were delayed from subscribers even in London, whilst the disappointment of a host of readers in the country, made us truly feel the annoyance of combined accidents, which, however painful in their past effect, still impart this advantage, — experience to direct and fortify us in the future. Of this experience, it is our hope that the reader finds some proof in the journal of to-day.

In our best anticipations we had calculated upon an extensive circulation: these anticipations, despite the effects of delay and omission, have been more than realised. We therefore feel it doubly onerous upon us to declare our sense of the many imperfections of our first number, from the liberal and allowing spirit with which these imperfections have been considered. We allude to them with a feeling of regret, but with also a feeling of gratitude; more than ever assured that our plan — when fully matured and worked out — will be crowned with a success which, but for the augury of the past week, we had scarcely hoped to count upon. We submit this day's journal to the reader as a proof of our progress of amendment, though by no means as an example of what we ultimately desire to compass.

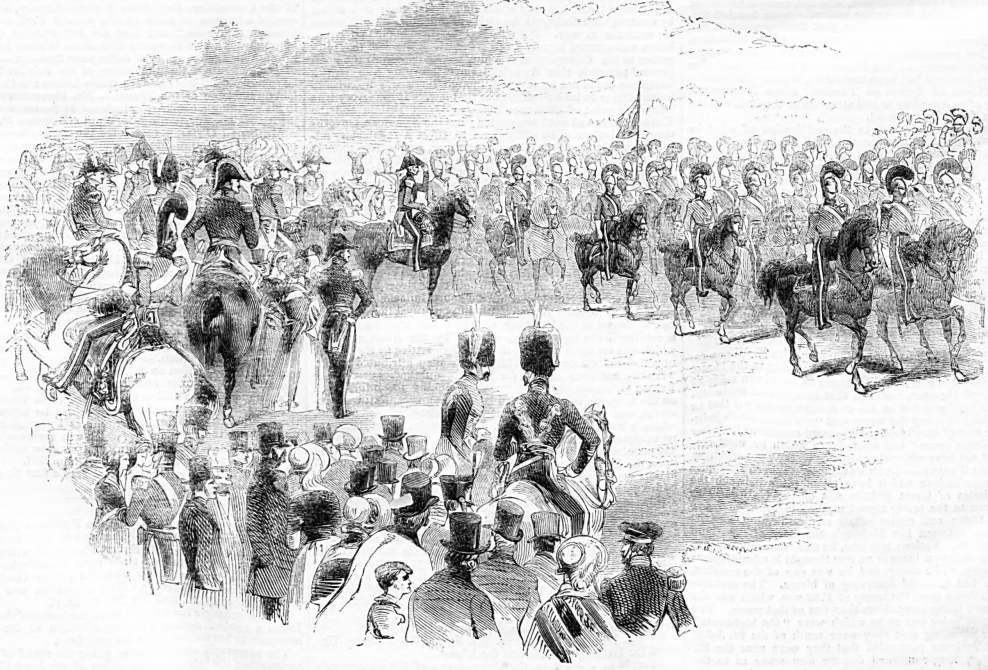
We shall endeavour with every new number to work out the principles laid down in our Prospectus. Being keenly alive to the necessity of supplying new subjects — considering novelty to be the very life-blood of the work we have undertaken, we shall employ our unceasing yet honest vigilance, to assure to ourselves the very first intelligence, illustrating it, regardless of expense, and determining to vindicate to the highest the peculiar beauties of that art which so happily adapts itself to the information and refinement of the newspaper reader.

We trust that there will be recognised an improvement in the variety and character of the literary portion of our present number from that of our essaying effort. We have, however, many other subjects to bring forth,—many new and striking points to adduce,—many sources of amusement and information to open. It is therefore our hope, as it is our belief, that we may, as our intimacy increases with the reader, find ourselves improving acquaintance; and though, as we have avowed, we feel that our introduction commenced under circumstances which did not to the fullest display our claims to the patronage we yet hope to obtain, we nevertheless have received the fullest and most grateful assurance that what we have done has been accepted in the kindest spirit, as the promise, no more, of what we hereafter determine to achieve.

REVIEW AT WOOLWICH.

On Saturday morning Woolwich presented a very animated scene, in consequence of the visit of his Grace the Duke of Wellington to inspect the 7th Dragoon Guards, previously to their embarkation for the Cape of Good Hope. The hour appointed for the troops to meet on the Common was twelve o'clock, and shortly before that time they took their stations, headed by the brass band and kettle-drums of the regiment. The external square was kept by the 7th and 1st Dragoons, and the colour square by a detachment of the Royal Foot Artillery. Precisely at twelve o'clock, his Grace, accompanied by the Marquis of Douro and a lady, arrived in an open carriage, and was met by General Lord Blomfield, K.C.B., commandant, Colonels E. Jones and Wylde, of the Royal Artillery, and the principal officers of the garrison, Sir G. Murray, Lord E. Somerset, and several other distinguished officers. His Grace was dressed in the full uniform of a field-marshal, and wore the decorations of several orders. The 7th Dragoon Guards formed in line, and his Grace, as he viewed them in parade order, was received with all honours, the band playing "God Save the Queen." After parade, the public, comprising a large concourse of persons, apparently of great respectability, were allowed to close in to the inner square, to witness the evolutions of the troops, who passed in close and open review order, and afterwards went through the sword exercise. At the conclusion of the inspection, his Grace rode up to the line, and complimented the officers on the efficiency of the regiment, bidding them a fervent and soldier-like farewell. His Grace returned to his carriage, accompanied by a numerous suite; and it is much to be doubted whether, at any period of his career of glory, he met with more spontaneous or general expressions of respect and admiration. The square was formed of carriages, private and public, and thousands must have come from London by steam-boat, railroad, and on foot.

In the evening the Duke gave a sumptuous banquet at Apsley House, to Lieut.-Colonel Alexander Kennedy, C.B. and K.H., and several officers of the 7th (the Princess Royal's) regiment of dragoon guards, when, in addition, Lieut.-General Lord Blomfield, colonel-commandant of the royal artillery; Lieut.-General the Right Hon. Sir George Murray, G.C.B., master-general of the ordnance; Lieut.-General Lord Fitzroy Somerset, military secretary; and Hon. Colonel Anson, the Marquis of Douro, Earl of March, Marquis of Worcester, aides-de-camp to the general commanding-in-chief; Lieut.-General Sir J. Macdonald, K.C.B., adjutant-general; General Sir James Willoughby Gordon, Bart., G.C.B., quarter-master-general, &c., were among the guests of the noble and gallant host.



REVIEW AT WOOLWICH, from a Sketch by J. Gilbert.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS on Monday, LORD DENMAN rose to contradict a statement which had been published in the "Morning Chronicle" respecting a judgment which he (Lord Denman) had given lately. The paragraph which he complained of was, that he had said "he considered it a matter of indifference whether licentious books were read in prisons or not." The noble lord, in the course of his speech, gave a most unqualified contradiction to the words reported to have been used by him. — LORD BROUGHAM complimented the learned judge in taking the earliest opportunity of refuting so gross and foul a calumny, and read a letter from Sir T. Wilde, denying that he had ever used such expressions in the course of his speech. — LORD CAMPBELL commented at some length on the judgment given in the case of Stockdale *v.* Hansard, and stated that it was the opinion of all the learned gentlemen in the House of Commons that it was not a right one. — LORD DENMAN said that if the House had the power of enforcing its privileges, what was the use of their passing the late act? — After a few words from LORD BROUGHAM and the DUKE OF WELLINGTON, and after some other business of a trifling nature had been transacted, LORD ROSEBERY inquired as to the character and ability of the individuals who composed the Poor Law Commission in Scotland, and stated it as his opinion that two more gentlemen should be added to the present number, which was only seven. — The DUKE OF WELLINGTON defended the commissioners. — After a few observations from LORD CAMPBELL, the subject dropped, and the House adjourned.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on Monday, Mr. TRELAWNEY took the oaths and his seat as member for Tavistock.

On the motion for going into a committee of supply, Mr. T. DUNCOMBE adverted to the subject of the Chartist prisoners in Knutsford gaol, and read a letter from the chaplain, complaining of the conduct of the magistrates towards him, in consequence of the information which he had communicated to the prison inspector, sent down from the Home Office. — Mr. T. EGERTON said the chaplain had for several years kept a private memorandum of what had occurred in the gaol, instead of informing the magistrates of what he thought to be wrong. — Sir J. GRAHAM said the proceeding was premature, as he had intended to lay the report of the prison inspector on the table of the House. The Home Secretary had no control over the appointment or removal of the chaplains of gaols, which was vested in the magistrates.

Mr. WILLIAMS asked why the rates of interest on exchequer bills was not reduced, seeing the current rate for money in the market was not more than one per cent. — The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER replied that the rate on public securities could not be arranged with reference to the fluctuating and temporary rate in the market.

SUPPLY. — The House having formed itself into a committee of supply, after some discussion on the high rate of interest on Exchequer bills, a vote was taken of 18,182,000*l.* to defray their charge. — The votes for the commissariat raised some debate. — Mr. HUME and Mr. WILLIAMS objected to the extravagant scale of our military establishments. — Sir R. PEEL and other members defended the vote. — Mr. HUME and Mr. WILLIAMS having urged the postponement of the civil contingencies on account of not having had time to consider the amount and nature of the votes, Sir R. PEEL assented, remarking, in reply to Mr. Williams, who had complained of the rapid manner in which the entire estimates were hurried forward, that it was no wonder, seeing that the Government had taken the House by surprise as to the extent of the reductions which they had been enabled to effect, and thereby commanded universal acquiescence. — The House then resumed, and after some further business had been transacted, adjourned.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS on Tuesday, LORD MONTEAGLE gave notice of an intention to call attention to the duties on the importation of cotton and wool.

LORD BROUGHAM adverted to the publication of what he termed a malignant misrepresentation of the nature of the correspondence between himself and Lord Lynedoch, the author of which he was endeavouring to discover, in order to see if the House has not the power of punishing him. He denied that Lord Lynedoch had sent him a hostile message; on the contrary, his letter had been full of kindly and friendly feeling, and merely requested him to correct the misrepresentation which had been made of his speech. These perversions of facts would be ridiculous, if not despicable, were it not that this sort of interference with private life by the press was no longer to be endured.

The DUKE OF WELLINGTON, in reply to Lord Beaumont, said that it was the intention of the Government to bring in a bill to give effect to the act of the Canadian Legislature, with respect to the introduction of American grain, through Canada, at a fixed duty of three shillings, and into this country as colonial produce.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS on Tuesday, Sir T. WILDE referred to what had passed on the previous evening in the House of Lords relative to observations alleged to have been made by him upon Lord Denman, and said that though that noble lord had not been very guarded in his own expressions, yet that he (Sir T. Wilde) in using the words that "the noble lord's judgment in the case of Stockdale and Hansard contained little law and less common sense," had used words which he most certainly would not have advisedly chosen.

ASHBURTON TREATY. — LORD PALMERSTON moved for copies of all communications which have taken place between the plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and of the United States with reference to the treaty signed at Washington the 9th day of August, 1842; and copies of all communications on the same subjects between her Majesty's Secretary of State and Lord Ashburton. Various opinions, he said, were entertained of this treaty, but as a bargain no one thought it advantageous for this country, while many, and he was one of the number, thought it a bad one, and deserving of blame. The first disputed point arising from the treaty of 1783 was, which was the St. Croix, there being more rivers than one of that name. The second disputed point was as to which were "the highlands," the British contending that they were south of the St. John, while the Americans contended that they were near the St. Lawrence. A long-continued dispute also arose as to the meaning of the 45th degree of latitude, the Americans contending that it was to be determined by geocentric latitude instead of by astronomical observation. The king of the Netherlands decided that neither the British nor the American lines met the views of the treaty of 1783, and he fixed upon an intermediate line, which was agreed to by the British Government, although it was felt to be very disadvantageous to England. The Government of the United States rejected the decision, upon which it was intimated to them that Great Britain withdrew its offer of adopting it. The British claim was founded upon the fact that the St. John falling into the Bay of Fundy was an "Atlantic" river, according to the terms of the treaty. This point had been determined in favour of Great Britain by the king of the Netherlands; and although the British Government had refused to re-open the question, yet it was subsequently agreed that a convention should be appointed to re-investigate and decide upon the disputed boundary. The proposition, however, that the state of Maine should appoint commissioners to be associated with the general commissioners was rejected by the British Government. Instead of continuing to rest on the justice of our claims, which the Americans were perfectly aware were corroborated by the reports of the British commissioners, Colonel Mudge and Mr. Featherstonhaugh, and conducting the negotiations through the ordinary channel of our ambassador at Washington, a special mission was appointed, which in itself was so far disadvantageous, because a functionary thus going out with great parade and pomp would feel a natural reluctance to return without doing something. With respect to the person selected, Lord Ashburton, with all considerations for his private virtues, he laboured under great disadvantages in being connected with America, and in being wholly unacquainted with diplomacy. When Lord Ashburton arrived in America he was met by Mr. Webster with the demand of "What proposal he had come to make to us?" thus at once taking an advantageous position, by which the British negotiator was ultimately checkmated. Lord Ashburton made his proposal, but he was skilfully played with; the Americans obtaining one concession after another, until the noble lord was at last brought to a stand-still by having nothing more to concede. All our foreign transactions, since the present Government had come into power, were a continual sliding backward from the position which this country had taken with respect to the abolition of the slave trade. The first step back had been in the non-ratification of the treaty with France; the second, the treaty with America; the third, the letter written relative to the burning of the barracoons on the coast of Africa. The next step back was in the correspondence between Mr. Webster and Lord Ashburton, relative to the case of the Creole, in the course of which Lord Ashburton seemed to admit that slaves on board American ships, even in British ports, were not to be considered in any other light than as slaves still upon American territory. Notwithstanding, however, all the concessions that had been made, Lord Ashburton was told that all questions in dispute had not been settled; and as if to prove this, a bill had since been presented to Congress with a view to take immediate possession of the Oregon territory, which, if it passed, would be tantamount to a declaration of war against this country. — Sir R. PEEL said that Lord Palmerston had occupied upwards of three hours in attacking a treaty and its negotiator, though he had been ten years in office without being able to effect any settlement of the dispute, and concluded by moving for papers which he knew the Government could not produce. He denied that the treaty with America was any retrograde step respecting the abolition of the slave trade. On the contrary, the Americans had undertaken to keep up a certain force on the coast of Africa for the purpose of suppressing the slave trade, — a step in advance considerably greater than any which the late Government had been able to induce the American Government to adopt. The refusal of the French to ratify the treaty it had signed was to be attributed to the Noble Lord who had embittered the feelings of the French against this country by his policy on the coast of Syria, and who had brought the two countries to the very verge of war. With respect to the letter referring to the destruction of the barracoons, he must say that they must respect the principles of international law, however desirous they might be to put an end to the slave trade. He was willing to go to the utmost limits of the law to promote the suppression of the slave trade, but they would only defeat their own object by treating with disrespect the rights of other powers with whom we were not at war. With respect to the Creole, no stipulation was entered into by Lord Ashburton; he left that altogether to the Government at home, but he laid down the great general principle that American slaves escaping into British territories could not be restored, though there was no wish to induce slaves to take advantage of that law. It was very true that every point of difference between Great Britain and the United States had not been settled; but the American Government had intimated its willingness to effect a satisfactory adjustment relative to the Oregon territory, and a few months would perhaps bring this point also to a conclusion, if national jealousies and animosities should not be most injudiciously revived. So far as related to military security, we had obtained under the treaty of Lord Ashburton much greater advantages than we should have derived under the treaty of the King of the Netherlands; and with respect to the extent of territory it was equally advantageous. The King of the Netherlands gave to America three-fifths of the disputed territory, and two-fifths to England; while Lord Ashburton's treaty gave seven-twelfths to America and five-twelfths to England. He contended that the great bulk of moderate men in both countries were in favour of the treaty. Nothing could be more fallacious than the reference to maps. A map existed in our royal library, which had belonged to the late king, on which was traced a red line, according to the boundary as claimed by the Americans, and which was set forth as being the boundary settled by the British negotiator of the treaty of 1783. The map attributed to Dr. Franklin had been sought for in 1826, on the request of the British Government, who were then seeking for information on the subject; it had not then been found, because it was preserved, not in the political, but in the historical department, where it had been found by Mr. Jared Sparks. Yet there was no evidence to connect that map with Dr. Franklin's despatch. He concluded with a vindication of Lord Ashburton, and called upon the House to stamp its approbation of the Government and its representative by negativing the motion. — Mr. MACAULAY contended that in the correspondence between Lord Ashburton and Mr. Webster there was indicated a caressing and wheedling tone on the part of the former, unworthy of his position, and derogatory to the dignity of this country. The eighth article of the treaty had been ratified in London and Washington under different impressions of its meaning. In America it was viewed as an abandonment of the right of search, while in England any such interpretation of the treaty was repudiated. — Sir H. DOUGLAS defended at considerable length the treaty made by Lord Ashburton. The debate was then adjourned.

The HOUSE OF LORDS did not sit on Wednesday.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. SMITH, the Attorney-General for Ireland, took his seat for Ripon.

In reply to a question, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that the Custom House authorities had not entered into any compromise with the parties implicated in the late smuggling transactions.

The report on the Dogs' Bill was brought up, and after two divisions ordered to be read a third time; when the adjourned debate on the

ASHBURTON TREATY was resumed by Sir CHARLES NAPIER, who, after a compliment to Sir Robert Peel on the effect of his eloquence, which had prevented him from being able to stay to listen to Mr. Macaulay's speech, in every word of which, however, as he had read it, he perfectly agreed, contended that Lord Ashburton had permitted himself to be outwitted by the "smart" dealings of Mr Webster. — Mr. D'ISRAELI considered Lord Palmerston's speech of the previous evening to have been a great parliamentary exhibition, one of the ablest and most luminous expositions he had ever heard. But what was the state of the case? We had given up a strip of land bordering on Vermont and Hampshire, and had received another strip adjoining New Brunswick: and for the angle of land formed by the sources of the Connecticut we had received a considerable territory forming an important military frontier; that is, we had given up one hundred thousand acres, and had received one million. The navigation of the St. John's gave the Americans no peculiar advantages, as on that part of the river running through British territory they must be subject to British law; and the concession of Rouse's Point was not of importance, as it did not command the entrance of Lake Champlain, and, moreover, was in ruins. He had seen the celebrated "red line" map, which was a small one of eighteen inches square, by D'Anville, of the continent of North America, too minute to be an authority; and he read an extract from the correspondence of Dr. Franklin, as published by his grandson, in which it was distinctly stated that the map used by the negotiators was Mitchell's. The British negotiator of the treaty of 1783, Mr. Oswald, had been objected to, and defended on grounds very similar to those on which the appointment of Lord Ashburton had been questioned and supported. — Mr. HAWES proceeded to address the House, but there not being forty members present, the House was counted out at a quarter past seven o'clock.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS on Thursday, the Mutiny Bill and the Marine Mutiny Bill were brought up from the Commons; as was the Sudbury Disfranchisement Bill. Leave was given to Lord BROUGHAM and VAUX to attend and give evidence before the Aliens Committee.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY presented a petition against the Sudbury Disfranchisement Bill. — Lord REDESDALE moved for the appointment of a committee to inquire into the amount of witnesses' expenses, referring to the same bill. — A committee was then named, and the bill was read a first time.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, on Thursday, the South Eastern and London and Croydon Railways Extension Bill was, after a short discussion, read a second time and ordered to be committed.

Mr. STANTON moved "That standing order, No. 89. (referring to Inclosure Bills) be rescinded." — A long desultory conversation ensued, and Mr. Stanton eventually withdrew his motion.

THE ASHBURTON TREATY. — Mr. HUME wished to know whether it was the intention of the Noble Lord (Palmerston) to renew the question respecting the treaty of Washington, concluded by Lord Ashburton, and Lord PALMERSTON said he had not any intention of bringing the subject relating to the treaty of Washington again before the House. He was quite satisfied with the discussion which had taken place. — Mr. HUME. After the statement of the Noble Lord, I wish to give notice that on Friday, the 31st instant, I shall move a resolution to the effect that the treaty lately concluded at Washington was beneficial to both countries, and that her Majesty's Ministers who promoted the negotiations, and Lord Ashburton who conducted them, were entitled to the thanks of the House and the country.

On the motion of Sir J. GRAHAM, the Registration of Voters Bill was ordered to be re-committed, and further considered on a future day. He hoped, however, that unnecessary opposition would not be offered to this important measure passing into a law.

NOTTINGHAM ELECTION. — Mr. HOGG brought up the Report of the Committee, that John Walter, Esquire, was not duly elected a burgess to serve in the present Parliament, for the borough of Nottingham; that the last election for the said borough was a void election; that John Walter, Esquire, was, through his agents, guilty of bribery and treating. — The EARL of LINCOLN moved that the issuing of the writ for Nottingham be suspended till the evidence taken before the Committee be laid on the table of the House. — Mr. HOGG saw no objection to his pursuing a course so calculated to promote the ends of justice. — The question was then put and agreed to.

Mr. SMITH O'BRIEN moved for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the manner in which the Poor Law in Ireland was carried into operation. He was convinced that the Irish Poor Law never could benefit that country unless it was greatly modified. He implored the House, and the Irish members in particular, to assist in endeavouring to discover the causes that had produced the failure of the measure. — LORD ELIOT said there was a measure in preparation which he hoped would have the effect of removing the evils that existed under the present system. He recommended the House to reject the motion. — Sir H. W. BARRON thought that granting the committee would have the effect of unsettling the confidence of the people in the permanence of the law. — Mr. GREGORY thought much credit was due to the Hon. Member for Limerick for bringing forward the motion. — Sir J. GRAHAM said that the measure referred to by his Noble Friend (Lord Eliot) would be brought forward before the Easter recess. — Mr. Ross said, as a measure was promised, he could not support the motion. — Mr. O'BRIEN pressed the motion, and the House divided on it. The numbers were — Ayes, 23; Noes, 108. Majority against the motion, 85. Sir JOHN WALSH moved for a Bill to amend the Parish Vestries Act. — Mr. T. DUNCOMBE moved that the debate be adjourned; but the amendment was lost, the numbers being 56 to 9. — The motion and the amendment (which was removed) were ultimately withdrawn, and Sir JOHN WALSH gave notice he would on Tuesday, move for leave to bring in the Bill. The Slavery Abolition Bill was brought in, and read a first time. Second reading this day.

A Cabinet Council was held at the Foreign Office on Saturday at half-past two o'clock. Previous to the Council several of the Ministers visited Sir Robert Peel in Downing Street.

A deputation of the silk trade from Manchester and other towns had a long interview with Sir James Graham at the Home Office on Saturday. The deputation was headed by Mr. Egerton, M.P., and Mr. Divett, M.P.

Lord Monteagle has entered upon the books of the House of Lords a protest against the determination of the House in reference to his motion upon the corn laws.

The paragraph which has been going the round of the papers announcing the intended resignation of the Lord Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, has been contradicted.

The annual festival of St. Patrick was held yesterday at the Freemasons' Tavern. Prince George of Cambridge presided.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

PARIS. — The "Messager" announces the receipt of despatches from Admiral Dupetit Thouars, which state that in consequence of the Queen and chiefs of the island of Otaheite having offered to place themselves under the protection of France, he had accepted that offer, and had taken the necessary measures to secure possession, in expectation of receiving the ratification of the King of the French.

Very important news from the River Plate has been received. General Oribe, the commander of the victorious army of Buenos Ayres, had crossed the river Uruguay, and, at the date of the last accounts, was said to be within two or three days' march of Monte Video. The Buenos Ayrean force was reported to consist of 7000 cavalry, 3000 infantry, and a great number of guns; and though the Monte Videan army, under Riviera, consisting of 6000 cavalry, was still in the field, and a large force had been got together within the walls of the city, yet it was greatly feared that they would not be able to make head against the invaders. In anticipation of the capture of the city, all the English merchant vessels had been ordered to prepare to receive British subjects on the advance of the enemy. The arrival of four Buenos Ayrean vessels of war off Monte Video, and the resignation of General Paz, the commander of the army of reserve, and of General Nunez, had increased the panic. This advance of Oribe is in direct defiance of the demand of English and French ambassadors, and a deputation had been sent to Monte Video, to ascertain whether they really intended to take measures for enforcing a suspension of hostilities. There is great reason to fear that the next arrivals from the River Plate will bring accounts of the capture of Monte Video, though we believe that neither England nor France will allow it to be held permanently by the Buenos Ayreans.

The Queen of the French has suggested to fourteen ladies, at the head of whom are the Royal Princesses and the Countess of Montalivet, the pleasing task of getting up a quantity of works in embroidery of various sorts, to be sold for the benefit of the sufferers at Guadaloupe. Those works, when finished, are to be exposed in the gallery of the Palais Royal, on the first floor, and will be afterwards sold. Ladies appointed by her Majesty will preside at the different stalls, and the sale, it is supposed, will commence on the 18th of next month.

Lord Cowley has subscribed the sum of 1000f. in aid of the sufferers by the earthquake.

The "Pilote du Calvados" states that several light shocks of an earthquake were felt in the department of the Manche, on the night of the 10th, about half-past twelve. The light of one of the beacons on the coast was extinguished by the oscillation.

By accounts from Port-au-Prince, of the 2d ult., we learn that the President of Hayti had issued a proclamation, in which he announces the suppression of the late attempt at revolution, and grants an amnesty to all the persons engaged in it, except the leaders.

The Spring races at the Champ de Mars, which commence on the 30th of April, give promise of being unusually brilliant. In consequence of the success of the hurdle races last season, the members of the Jockey Club have subscribed the handsome sum of 6000f. for two similar races at the approaching meeting, in the hope of inducing some of the well-known English horses to come over and dispute the prize.

GERMANY. — The Prussian towns and provinces do not bear in silence the recent movement of their government: protestations are heard from all sides; the towns of Königsberg and Dantzig have published their open declaration that they will insist to the last upon the establishment of a free press and of a system of public justice; the Rhenish province is in a great agitation, and the city of Trier, together with a number of smaller communities of the Mosel-province, has presented a petition, which in the strongest terms demands the annihilation of the measures taken against the "Rhenish Gazette," and in favour of the establishment of guarantees to protect the free press against ministerial vexations. Some impression appears to be effected by this agitation; Professor Markeineke has just received permission for publishing his lectures on the philosophy of Hegel, which the censorship had forbidden. The railway between Berlin and Hamburg is now certainly to be constructed: the shares taken for this project are already sufficient to cover the costs.

Bavaria has made the proposal, not only to abolish the gambling by lotteries that is carried on for the profit of the Bavarian Exchequer, but also to insist upon abolishing all gambling by lottery, and other plays at hazard, within the German states. The lottery of Frankfort is the most considerable of these gambling establishments.

MADRID. — Elections still occupied public attention, both parties anticipating a majority in their favour. According to the Opposition journals, twenty-one of the provinces would return Opposition members, thirteen Ministerialists, and fifteen were doubtful. Don Francisco de Paula had been returned for Saragossa. The negotiations with England are much talked of here, but with little certainty. It is now said that it is contemplated laying an *ad valorem* duty on Spanish wines on their entering England. The duty would be 3*s.* a gallon on the Andalusian white wines, and 9*d.* a gallon on the red wines of Catalonia. But we can, as yet, only indulge in conjectures on these circumstances.

ATHENS. — King Otho has had recourse to the unconstitutional expedient of dissolving the Provincial Councils of Corinth, Calamata, and other places, in consequence of their having suggested economy in the management of the shattered finances of Greece, and having recommended the departure of the Bavarian followers of the King who prey upon the resources of the state. This act is loudly blamed by the Greek press. There is also a scheme on foot to negotiate a loan with Holland.

COLONIAL.

The intelligence brought by the royal mail steamer Tay adds little or nothing to the recent information received from the West Indies. It is gratifying, however, to find that the earthquake, which had been so terrific in its effects at Guadaloupe and other islands, had not visited Jamaica.

An extraordinary phenomenon had been observed from the Tay to the W. and SSW., during the homeward passage, on the 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 14th, 15th, and 17th inst. In appearance it was like a bright sunbeam, resembling in shape a comet's tail, but more parallel, the altitude of the upper limb being about 32 degrees, and terminating downward about 8 degrees above the horizon in an oblique direction; it was generally visible from half past six o'clock until nine o'clock in the evening. This is, no doubt, the comet to which we refer in another column.

The sentence of a court-martial held upon the Hon. Capt. Elliot, of the Spartan frigate, at the instance of Mr. D. M. Gleig, a midshipman attached to that vessel, for ordering corporal punishment to be inflicted upon the latter, has also been received. The Court were of opinion that the authority and the rules of the service, and the dignity of the law, would be fully vindicated and upheld by merely adjudging that the prisoner be severely reprimanded. Upon Captain Elliot's return to his own ship, the Spartan, the crew received him with loud and continued cheering.

POLITICO-MUSICAL UPROAR IN SICILY.—PALERMO, Feb. 27. The performance at the theatre of our capital of a new opera, called *Mary Tudor, Queen of England*, has just given rise to deplorable scenes. This opera, the music and words of which are written by two young Sicilians, Messrs. Gernia and Pacini, who have already obtained great and deserved success at the theatre of Milan, Venice, Florence, and Naples, had been composed expressly for our theatre, and was received, on its first representation, with an enthusiasm almost frantic. The authors were recalled amidst loud *vivats*, accompanied with a shower of flowers, wreaths, crowns, poetical lines, and even trinkets. Not content with this, the young men who had occupied the pit conducted back MM. Gernia and Pacini in triumph, with links and music, to their residence at the villa of Prince Conto, about a league from Palermo. Such an ovation, and the report that it was to be renewed next day, on the second performance of the opera, excited the suspicions of our Governor-General, the Duke de Maggio Principe, who, to convince himself of the truth, went to the theatre, where he had hitherto but very seldom made his appearance. In the middle of the second act (the piece has four) his excellency thought he perceived something that had escaped the two-fold *censure* to which dramatic works are subjected here. The opera, he fancied, contained, especially in the passages most applauded and *encored*, certain political allusions against the Neapolitan Government. The Governor forthwith ordered the curtain to be lowered, and the spectators to evacuate the theatre. All those in the pit resisted the mandate, and uttered insults and threats against the Governor-General. A party of soldiers was introduced, a struggle took place, and it was only after blood had been shed, and a large number of persons had been arrested, that the Governor's orders were executed. Next morning he ordered the theatre to be closed until next winter. He has pointed out such of the prisoners as are to be prosecuted before the criminal or correctional courts; and as regards those accused only of having applauded, or cried "bis!" he has restored them to liberty, but awarded them a singular punishment, of which there surely can be no precedent,— they are *for ever* prohibited from entering any theatre on the island of Sicily!

THE CHINESE NAVY. — From the latest Pekin Gazettes, we perceive that much interest exists in the imperial cabinet on the subject of constructing ships of war after foreign models. It appears that Kin Yinglin, one of the ministers, laid drawings of ships of sundry forms before his majesty, accompanied by strong recommendations for an increased number of efficient fighting ships. Upon this the emperor sends all the drawings to Yishan, at Canton, ordering him to have vessels constructed, if he considered Kin Yinglin's plans the most feasable. Yihshan, in a very long memorial, shows that no kinds of vessels are at all proper for fighting, except those constructed after foreign models. He speaks of the wonderful reports of the high officers of the United States' ships Constellation and Boston, during their visit at Whampoa, and proposes that they be the models of all Chinese ships of war hereafter to be built. The Emperor, therefore, orders ships to be built of the kind recommended, and of the best materials. His Majesty also states, that as the ships are *now* needed, there will not be time to wait for them to be built, but orders Yihshan to send the Hong merchants to buy the ships which the barbarians may have for sale, and, at the same time, to despatch proper officers to purchase the strongest materials possible for ship building. Yishan states, in his memorial, that one ship after the foreign model has been built at Canton, and which *is able to go out to sea*, and that two more are on the stocks.

A curious case lately occurred at the Police Correctionelle. The crier of the court called out in a stentorian voice "Madame Athanase against M. Létendu." A bald little man was brought to the bar. At sight of him a burst of laughter proceeded from the audience. Imagine a head covered with innumerable little red spots, and otherwise completely bare, with the exception of a score of hairs by the side of each temple. Madame Athenase, who complains of an assault against the person, thus relates her misfortune to the bench:—"Since my earliest youth, gentlemen, I have pursued the delicate and difficult art of extracting from the ebon locks of mankind the silvery threads which diminish their lustre and disfigure their beauty." M. le President. — Simply inform us you are an *épilause*, and explain your case briefly. The Complainant.—I am then an *épilecace*, since that is the scientific name given to my art. One day I received a letter signed Létendu, in which this gentleman directed me to call upon him and extract his grey hairs. I went, and was occupied three days in performing the task. Three days, gentlemen, and six hours each day. At first I advised M. Létendu to have his head shaved and wear a peruque, but he would not listen to my proposition. You will scarcely believe the precautions I took not to deprive him of a single brown hair. When I had finished, Monsieur looked at himself in the glass, and cried out, "How ugly I look." In fact he did not look handsome, but 'twas no fault of mine. When I asked him to pay me what had been agreed to, he replied that I had ruined him; that I had pulled every dark hair from his head, and that he should bring an action for damages. Fortunately I had saved every hair, and showed them to him. This so increased his rage, that he pushed me out of the door so violently that I fell down a dozen stairs; I have been leeched and poulticed, my back is injured, and I demand 100 francs for what I have suffered. Le President to the accused: Well, Létendu, have you committed the injury this woman complains of? The accused: Look at my head. Le President: Reply to my question. The accused: Look at my head, there alone is my defence. Le President: But that is no fault of the woman's; you insisted upon the extraction. The accused: I only wished to get rid of a few grey hairs, but this woman, Sacre! she has rendered me frightful; I am obliged to wear a black skull cap, and all my neighbours laugh at me. The Complainant: Look, gentlemen, at Monsieur's *few* grey hairs in this paper; there are 67,834 of them, I counted as I drew them out. In spite of the respect due to the court, shouts of laughter long and violent prevented the case being carried further. M. Le President ordered the poor Sammy to pay his Delilah the 100 francs damages she claimed. The Complainant. And the 25 francs agreed upon for my trouble, is he not to pay that also? Le President: That is a case for the Court of Requests.

The Emperor of Russia contemplates visiting Germany in the course of this summer, and will probably come to the Rhine.

Letters from Vienna, of the 12th of March, state that the illness of the Archduke Francis Charles, the Emperor's brother, and presumptive heir to the crown, had assumed so serious an aspect, that the sacrament had been administered to him.

It is stated that several of the orders of knighthood, medals, and honorary insignia given on occasion of the marriage of the Crown Prince of Hanover, have been sent back to the Government.

Our last accounts from St. Petersburg mention the arrival in that capital of Rubini, and his intention to give a series of concerts there.

An atrocious assassination was committed the other day near Bilbao. The victim was a man employed by the Provincial Deputation to Biscay, as agent during the elections. Whilst returning to Bilbao, he was attacked by five men, who stabbed him in nine places. With the corpse was discovered a paper pinned to the breast, containing these words:—"Thus are the tools of the Provincial Deputation rewarded."

AMERICAN JOURNALISM. — A New York paper gives the following statistics with reference to this subject: — The number of journals and periodical works published throughout the Union is 1641, of which 143 appear daily, 1141 weekly, 125 twice or thrice a week, and 227 at longer intervals. There are 1552 typographical printing offices in the States, giving occupation to 15,000 or 16,000 workmen; and about 500 great bookbinding establishments.

The sovereigns of other countries having contributed to adorn the persons of two or three print publishers, the subjects of this country are invited to deck their sideboards with plate. This is no joke, but a fact, a circular having been sent round soliciting "guineas" towards purchasing a piece of plate to be presented to Mr. Moon!

The sums received by the Central Committee of the Guadaloupe Relief Fund on Monday, amounted to 42,263f. 85c., making a total of 324,644f. 50c. The collection made at the church of St. Roch on Tuesday, and at the houses of ladies who undertook the charitable office of receivers, amounted to 56,000f. Their Majesties, Her Royal Highness the Duchess d'Orleans, and her Royal Highness Madame Adelaide, gave 2000f. on this occasion, in addition to the large sums subscribed by them to the Central Committee. The Paul Emile merchant vessel, chartered by the Minister of Marine, left Toulon on the 19th with provisions and other articles of succour for Guadaloupe.

At the Chamber of Deputies on Wednesday, M. Guizot read a paper demanding a credit of 1,600,000f. for constructing an hotel for the French embassy in China.

Fever, of a violent typhus kind, is very prevalent in the metropolis.

A deputation waited upon Prince Albert, at Buckingham Palace, to present the address of the governors of Christ's Hospital to her Majesty, written on vellum, acknowledging the donation of 1000*l.*, and requesting permission for the enrolment of her name amongst the governors of the hospital.

At a meeting of the Governors of Bethlehem Hospital, Sir Peter Laurie in the chair, it was resolved that when visitors went through the wards, the attendants be ordered not to mention the name of any patient even if required to do so by the visiter. All the criminal lunatics are dressed alike, and no distinction is made in the treatment.

DRURY LANE THEATRICAL FUND. — The 26th anniversary festival for the fund originally projected and established by Garrick was celebrated on Wednesday at the Freemasons' Tavern. The Duke of Cambridge presided. Mr. Harley spoke the speech of the evening, and the effects of his eloquence were visible in the large contributions of his auditors, amounting in the aggregate to nearly 900*l.* Amongst these, however, must be included the donation of Her Majesty the Queen, 100*l.*; the Duke of Bedford, 50*l.* The Duke of Cambridge subscribed 25*l.*, and there was a long list of contributions of 20*l.*, 10*l.*, and 5*l.*

ATHLONE ELECTION COMMITTEE. — On Tuesday one witness only was examined on behalf of the petitioners; when Mr. Sergeant Wrangham, at the close of the examination, addressed the committee, relinquishing the contest on behalf of the sitting member. The committee agreed to resolutions to the effect that Daniel Henry Ferrall, Esq. had not been duly elected to serve in the present parliament for the borough of Athlone; that by himself or his agents he had been guilty of treating; and that the election was void.

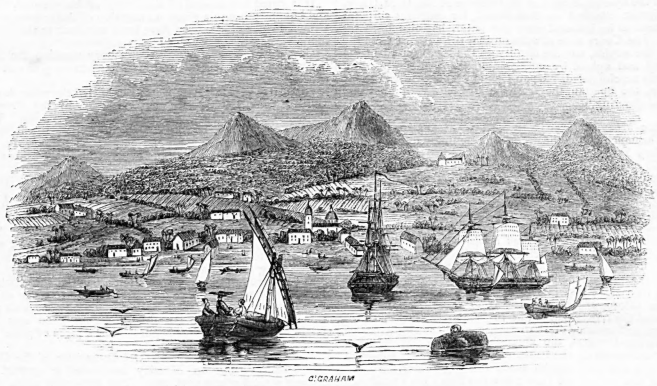
CAMBRIDGE ELECTION. — Most unqualified assertions as to the means by which this election was influenced are in circulation. It is said that a large house which was untenanted was taken, and was crowded the whole of Sunday and of Sunday night by buyers and sellers of votes; and it is calculated that at least two hundred were purchased by some means. It is said that during the last hour thirty and forty pounds were paid for a vote.

The Highland Society celebrated the anniversary of the battle of Alexandria at the Freemasons' Tavern on Tuesday. The Duke of Cambridge presided. The speech of Mr. Charles Dickens excited general approbation. Upon the health of "the visitors" being given, he said — "As one of the visitors on this occasion, I scarcely know how to thank you myself, and for the others included in the toast. I attended this meeting as a private individual, and did not expect the distinction his Royal Highness has conferred on me. Gentlemen, Highland hospitality has been a proverb for many centuries, and has been told and celebrated in as many tales as there are checks in the tartan. Your liberality has so often steeped me in gratitude to the very lips, that to confess the very truth, I find difficulty in getting words out of them (cheers). But so much the better; for if I return you thanks from my heart — if I return them truthfully and gratefully, I know that I give you real Highland thanks, though the fashion of my speech be Saxon (cheers). Gentlemen, although we are invited only as guests to this board to-day, and though we have not the happiness to be able to say we are of the family, still we feel you have made us no strangers here — we know that we have a common bond together in our connexion with Scottish history, and with that gallant people. We know we have one common clanship, and our enthusiastic admiration for that noble country, whose kindling inspiration has awakened no less the patriotism of genius than the patriotism of valour, and nerved alike the hand of him who wields the sword and of him who holds the pen — which has produced not alone a Bruce and a Wallace, but a Burns and a Scott (great cheering). And therefore for us, your visitors, although we cannot boast of the Highland distinction of the honour of ancient birth and proud inheritance — although when wandering upon Highland ground, we cannot say "that our foot is on our native heath," and though our names are not by any means Macgregor, still I thank you with Highland feeling and Highland sentiment for the honour you have done us (cheers). As an individual, permit me to add that, two years since, I found in Scotland, both from Highland chief and from Lowland gentleman, as glowing a welcome, and as earnest affection, as, I believe, ever man received (cheers).

THE EARTHQUAKE.

Slight shocks have been felt at Trinidad, Demerara, Berbice, and St. Lucia, but it does not appear that they were attended with destruction of property or loss of life, though it is easily to be imagined that the populace have been in a complete state of consternation owing to the great damage done in the neighbouring islands.

Of Guadaloupe we this week give an illustration from an original drawing, and as a postscript to the details inserted in our last paper, append an extract of a letter from an eye-witness of the earthquake, affording a graphic description of the frightful calamity: — "I was breakfasting at the hotel situate in the large square, when all of a sudden a dreadful noise, not to be described, with a rocking movement was felt. Being near the



GIGRAHAM

GUADALOUPE.

door I instantly rushed out, and perceived the buildings falling in every direction. I perfectly recollect what happened for the first fifteen or twenty seconds, and saw many persons either wounded or killed. The whole of my fellow companions at breakfast I never saw again. In the midst of all this calamity the earth in several parts of the town opened to a considerable extent, when volumes of water spouted forth with awful fury, to the extent of a hundred feet perpendicular, in columns of several feet in thickness, momentarily and most awfully swallowing up hundreds of the inhabitants, when the earth closed again. What followed for twenty seconds after I have no recollection of. On recovering, I found myself beside three dead bodies, in the midst of a heap of ruins, my clothes torn, and my hat broken. My son, a child of six years of age, most providentially escaped unhurt, finding him shortly after on a heap of ruins. The scene which presented itself was more than words can express. Thousands were buried among the ruins, still living, and raising their voices for succour. Many were saved. But, alas! the work of destruction was not yet finished. A cry of fire was heard, which proved to be too true. What the earthquake and water had begun, the fire finished."

A letter from Guadaloupe, in the *Constitutionnel*, has, among other affecting details, the following: — "Suddenly I beheld the lifeless body of a man in the prime of life, and near him a beautiful young woman. She appeared absorbed in grief; one could almost imagine her to be a marble figure weeping over a tomb. In her cheeks was still discernible the faint blush of the rose, and a smile was on her lips — and yet she was dead! A young girl, to escape from certain death, rushed out of her father's house, but at the moment when she considered herself safe, a house fell near her, and part of the ruins held her firmly to the spot by the lower extremities. She called loudly for help, the more so, as the flames appeared advancing with a giant's pace. A soldier endeavoured to extricate her, but in vain. She then besought him to cut off her two legs, in order to save her from the fire, which had already reached her. The soldier, yielding to her entreaties, drew his sword, and prepared to cut the legs, when his heart failing him he fled. The young girl was soon consumed."

The earthquake was felt in the Isle of Man at the same time as at Liverpool. The shock lasted a few seconds, and in some cases produced considerable alarm to the inhabitants, who were awoke by the oscillation felt in their houses. The shock was preceded by a rumbling noise, and followed by a sensible vibration from east to west. At the time of the shocks the wind became instantly calm, but a considerable motion was observed in the sea after it had subsided, and the waves dashed violently against the adjacent shore. After the lapse of a few minutes, the wind again rose to a stiff breeze.

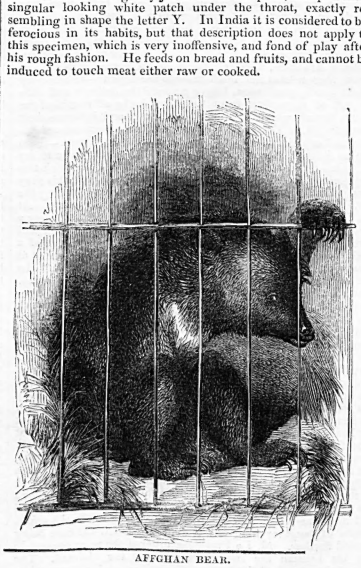
At Penrith the inhabitants were thrown into a considerable degree of excitement and alarm by a very perceptible shock. It took place about a quarter past one o'clock in the morning. Thursday evening was an unusually dark one, and the state of the atmosphere was dense and sultry. The darkness continued some time after the shock, when, it is said, a dark yellow tinge spread along the sky, and a rush of wind followed. The shock was felt at Lancaster, Kendal, Carlisle, Keswick, Wigton, and at several other places. Several days previous to the shock the weather was cold, bleak, and unseasonable.

The convulsions of the earthquake on Friday morning last were the more alarming at Patterdale, a well-known romantic and mountainous district at the head of the lake of Ullswater, in the county of Cumberland, than at any other place in the north of England. The inhabitants say the shock was accompanied with a low rumbling sound, like the report of distant thunder, and that its repeated echoings among the surrounding mountains made it terrifically grand.

The earthquake was felt at Edenhall, Cumberland, and all along the river Eden; and at Langwathby, Culgaith, Skerwith, Ousby, Great Salkeld, Little Salkeld, and several other villages in the eastward of Cumberland. At Kendal the shock is stated to have been very severe.

EARTHQUAKES IN ENGLAND. — It is exactly 800 years since the first earthquake is recorded to have taken place in this country, it having happened at Worcester and Derby in 1043. Four similar visitations are said to have fallen on England during the following half-century. An earthquake, that was generally felt throughout the country, occurred in 1090, and was followed by a scarcity of food. In 1199 the county of Somerset suffered from a like cause; and St. Michael's-on-the-Hill, without Glastonbury, was thrown down by shocks that were also felt throughout the country in 1247. Earthquakes were experienced in England during each of the three succeeding years, — a remarkable succession of such evils! The greatest earthquake ever known in this country occurred in 1318; and in April, 1580, another caused great damage in various directions. It lasted only one minute; but the shock was so severe that many churches and houses were much shattered, and many lives were lost. In the quaint phraseology of Stowe, — "The great clocke bell in the palace at Westminster stroke of itself against the hammer with shaking, as divers clockes and belles in the city and elsewhere did the like." This earthquake extended into many parts of England; and in Kent there were three distinct shocks that caused much damage. In 1583 one occurred in the county of Dorset, that "removed a considerable piece of ground." Earthquakes were felt at London, and several other places in Britain, in March, 1749, and in 1750, and gave rise to the publication by Dr. Stukely, in which he attributed the phenomena, not to vapours or fermentations generated in the bowels of the earth, but to electricity. On one of these occasions it is stated that "a sound was observed to roll from the Thames to Temple Bar, just as the electrical snap precedes the shock." In 1750 the same counties now visited suffered from an earthquake that caused much damage in Liverpool, Chester, Manchester, &c.; and in the beginning of 1761 great alarm was excited throughout the metropolis and its neighbourhood by two shocks, on February 8. and March 3. In 1786 earthquakes occurred in different parts of the North of England. In Westmoreland in 1790; in the counties of Bedford, Leicester, Lincoln, Nottingham, &c., in March, 1792; at Shaftesbury and Salisbury in September, 1793.

A NOVELTY FROM AFFGHANISTAN. — Among the numerous trophies from the recent seat of war in the east, one of the most curious that has yet reached us is a bear (*Ursus Thibetanus*) lately presented to the Surrey Zoological Gardens by Captain Alexander. It was captured while quite a cub by an officer of the 45th in the celebrated Khyber Pass, and has since shared with his captor all the vicissitudes of war, imprisonment, and victory. The only other individual of this species that has been seen alive in this country was a tenant of the Tower menagery, about eighteen years ago, and was afterwards sent to the king of Holland. It is the rarest of the ursine family, and differs in many important respects from its congeners, having a remarkably thick neck, flat head, and large ears. The claws are particularly weak, and not more than half the length of those of the other two species of bears known in India. The conformation of the body is heavy and massive, clothed with a thick close fur of a glossy jet black in all parts, except a most singular looking white patch under the throat, exactly resembling in shape the letter Y. In India it is considered to be ferocious in its habits, but that description does not apply to this specimen, which is very inoffensive, and fond of play after his rough fashion. He feeds on bread and fruits, and cannot be induced to touch meat either raw or cooked.



AFFGHAN BEAR.

IRELAND.

THE REPEAL AGITATION is rapidly spreading among the peasantry and the labouring classes in the provinces of Leinster, Munster, and Connaught. This is mainly owing to the exertions of the priests. Accounts have been received in town to-day of a great meeting on Sunday in the town of Trim, which was attended by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Meath, a large number of his priests, and thousands of the peasantry from all parts of the country. Mr. O'Connell was the leading orator. His speech is described as having been peculiarly energetic and daring, and that it produced considerable excitement among his auditors.

Whatever may be the ultimate intentions of Royalty respecting a visit to Ireland this year, the event appears to be looked upon there as one of certain occurrence, and already has a note of preparation been sounded in an official department.

Mr. Michael Ward, the gentleman who some time since was fired at by his wife, is quite recovered from the effects of his wounds. On the night of the occurrence, the lady deeming that matters were much worse than they really were, fled the house, and travelled on foot, without ever taking rest, to the residence of a near relative situated in the mountains, and thirty miles from her own habitation. Both husband and wife being, as in such cases usual, somewhat in fault at the commencement of the quarrel, all further proceedings in the matter have been stayed.

A barbarous murder was committed on Wednesday night last in the county of Roscommon. The victim was a young man named Michael Brock. His body was found shockingly mutilated, within a few perches of his father's house, near the town of Tuam. The Lord-Lieutenant has offered a reward of 60*l.* for the discovery of the assassins.

On Sunday last, as Mr. Richard Shee, of Blackwell Lodge, county Kilkenny, was proceeding to church at Kilkenny on an outside car, he was fired at by a man standing on the road at Lanigan's Hill. Three slugs entered his hat, and four through the side of his coat. The assassin made his escape. A man named Patrick King, against whom Mr. Shee has an ejectment for trial, is committed on suspicion.

A reward of 100*l.* is offered by Government for the apprehension of the murderers of Thomas Tierney at Ballinlaugh.

The Sligo corporation have agreed to petition for repeal.

The "Clare Journal" contradicts a statement in the "Limerick Chronicle," that Major M'Namara and others of his family have been superseded as magistrates of that county.

The Cork guardians have signed a new poor rate of 5*d.* in the pound. The Cork barony constables refuse to collect the rate at any price.

Government sanctioned all the loans applied for at last Kerry assizes, amounting to 7100*l.*

At Galway assizes, Bridget Keane was tried for administering poison to her husband; but the jury acquitted, although the evidence against the prisoner was very strong.

At Wicklow, on Saturday, James Haskins was executed in front of the gaol for the murder of John Pugh. He declared the evening before, that he did not wish to live, and was apparently resigned to his fate.

The Windsor Castle Indiaman, of Liverpool, which was reported derelict at sea, has been saved off Kilrush. She is 721 tons register, is owned by Chaloner and Co., Liverpool, and is now moored in Scattery Roads, in charge of the coast-guard. There are thirty-five claimants for salvage. The value is stated at 90,000*l.*

PROVINCIAL.

BRIGHTON. — On Sunday night two of the privates of the 4th Dragoons committed a most unprovoked assault on one of the Brighton policemen. The offenders have been given up by the civil authorities to be tried by a court-martial. The men have a bad example set them by their officers, as on last Saturday morning, about three o'clock, several of the officers were driving through the town with four-in-hand, and numbers of the privates on the coaches, armed with stones, throwing at the lamps and windows, several of which were broken. The commissioners are in communication with the colonel on the subject, being determined to obtain redress for the wilful destruction of the town property.

CAMBRIDGE. — On Tuesday morning, about six o'clock, George Hillman, Esq., of Magdalen College, in this university, was discovered by one of the college servants quite lifeless, having evidently been dead several hours. The deceased went to his tutor the previous evening, and after taking tea with another of his companions about nine o'clock, he complained of a pain in his head, to which he was constitutionally liable, and was recommended to retire to rest immediately by a friend, who left him at a quarter past ten o'clock. He was quite dressed when discovered in his bedroom, and from the fact of the pitcher being upset in the hand-basin, it appears that he was about to wash his hands, previous to his going to bed. Verdict, — "Died by the visitation of God."

BURY. — A number of skeletons have been lately found in a field in the Tollgate Lane, belonging to Mr. Thomas Fenton, of this town. They were turned up by the spade at about one foot below the surface, were at least twenty in number, and appeared to have been deposited with great care, as they were lying at full length, and in a row. With them was a small urn of coarse ware and rude workmanship, but quite empty.

PAISLEY. — There is not any department of the manufactures of the country which has a better prospect of prosperity before it than the staple of Paisley, the manufacture of fine shawls, providing only that trade in general were once more restored to a healthy state. For boldness of conception, originality of design, and spirited outlay on the cost and finish of the goods, those of this season were never before equalled. By a perseverance in the same course, we have every reason to believe that our manufacturers would feel themselves far better rewarded than by pursuing the reprehensible system which has been too much in fashion hitherto, of striving who can produce the cheapest imitation of a good article.

THE COLLIERS' STRIKE, CARDIFF. — The condition of the mining counties of Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire continues to give great uneasiness to the minds of the well disposed inhabitants, and the conduct of the "turn-outs" during the past week has been so turbulent as to render the removal of the military from one place to another necessary. The number of men who continue from their work on various parts of the hills is estimated by some at between 5000 and 6000; there can be little doubt that it exceeds 4000. The masters have used every endeavour to arrest the progress of the movement, and many of the real friends of the colliers have exerted themselves to show them the folly and unreasonableness of their proceedings, and to induce them to return to their work, but without success. One of the contractors prevailed on some men to come over from Merthyr and Dowlas to work the mine, but they have been menaced and assaulted, and threatened with assassination by the turn-outs, who pelted them with stones, and obliged them to return to their homes. Some of the ringleaders in this outrage were apprehended.

THE THAMES TUNNEL.

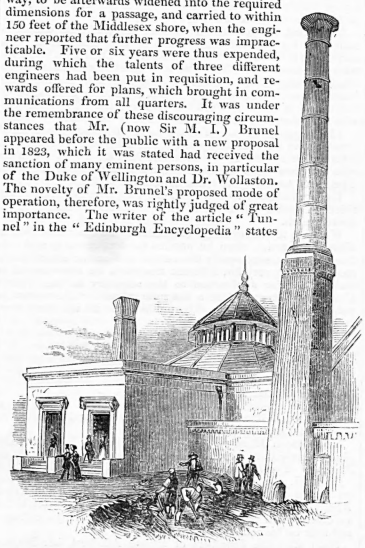
This day is fixed for the ceremony of opening the Thames Tunnel; and the completion of this magnificent work, alike the admiration of foreigners and the boast of our own countrymen, affords a favourable opportunity for introducing the subject to our readers.

In this age of engineering science, when invention may almost be considered to have outstripped itself, the accomplishment of all that has been looked for through so many years of anxiety and labour in the formation of a sub-aqueous communication between the shores of our noble river, cannot fail to be welcomed with universal satisfaction, and may, without fear of contradiction, be pronounced the most extraordinary performance of modern times.

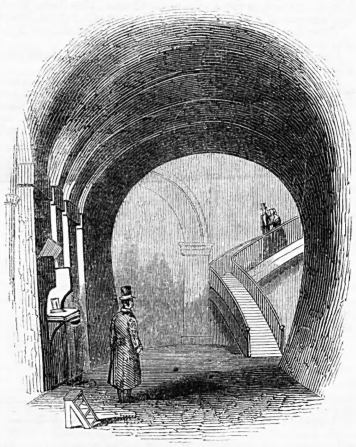
The innumerable difficulties which have been successfully encountered during the progress of the work by the talent and energy of the engineer, hold out an example to posterity which must have a beneficial effect on future labourers in the same field, and assert a claim on the part of Sir Isambard Brunel to the gratitude of every Englishman.

The following brief sketch of the undertaking will be read with interest at the present moment: —

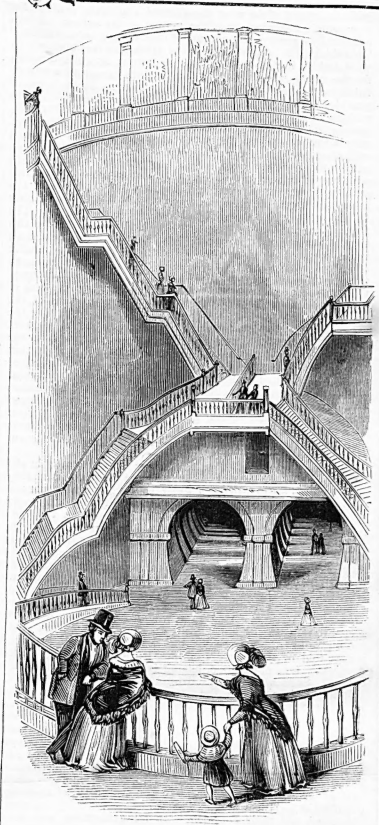
So far back as the year 1802 a project was set on foot by some enterprising gentlemen, with a view to opening an archway under the Thames between Rotherhithe and Limehouse, about a mile below the present tunnel. The engineer selected was an experienced Cornish miner named Vesey, who, having made some borings on each side of the river, reported that "he was firmly persuaded the undertaking would not cost so much as had been conceived." A company was formed under the title of the "Thames Archway Company," an Act of Parliament obtained, and the work begun. A shaft of eleven feet in diameter was sunk to the depth of forty-two feet; to avoid certain difficulties it was then contracted to eight feet, and thus continued to the depth of seventy-six feet. The horizontal excavation was there begun, in the form of a driftway, to be afterwards widened into the required dimensions for a passage, and carried to within 150 feet of the Middlesex shore, when the engineer reported that further progress was impracticable. Five or six years were thus expended, during which the talents of three different engineers had been put in requisition, and rewards offered for plans, which brought in communications from all quarters. It was under the remembrance of these discouraging circumstances that Mr. (now Sir M. I.) Brunel appeared before the public with a new proposal in 1823, which it was stated had received the sanction of many eminent persons, in particular of the Duke of Wellington and Dr. Wollaston. The novelty of Mr. Brunel's proposed mode of operation, therefore, was rightly judged of great importance. The writer of the article "Tunnel" in the "Edinburgh Encyclopedia" states



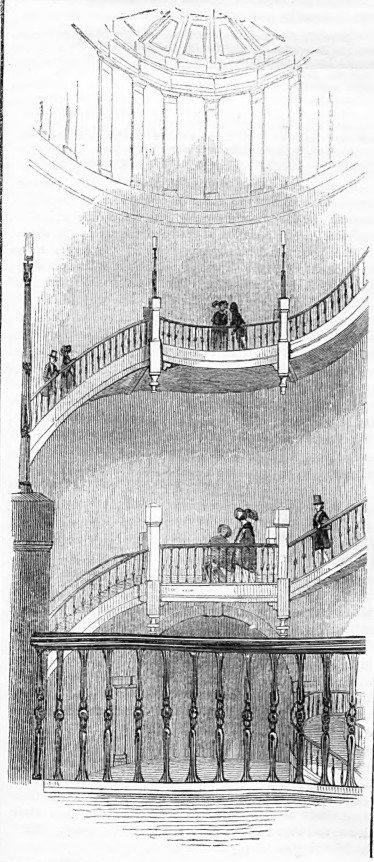
that he was informed by Mr. Brunel "that the idea upon which his new plan of tunnelling is founded was suggested to him by the operations of the teredo, a testaceous worm, covered with a cylindrical shell, which eats its way through the hardest wood, and has on this account been called by Linnæus *calamitas navium*. In the beginning of 1824 Mr. Brunel had the satisfaction to see the first and least arduous step secured, viz., the formation of a company with the

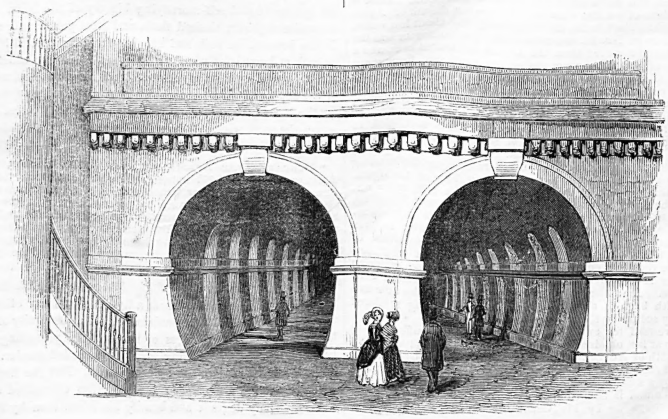


express object of carrying his designs into execution. Rotherhithe was chosen as the starting-place, and the company took the precaution of having three parallel borings made beneath the bed of the Thames in the proposed direction of the tunnel, when the report was so favourable, that the engineer went to work in a somewhat bolder way than originally intended. The soil was the great object of deliberation, for upon it depended at what level the tunnel should be commenced. The assistance of some eminent geologists was here of great moment. These informed the engineer that below a certain depth the soil would be a kind of quicksand, and therefore advised him to keep above it, and as close as possible to the stratum of clay forming the bed of the river. The preliminaries being arranged, the work commenced in March, 1825. A space being marked out 150 feet distant from the river, a cylindrical shaft, 50 feet in diameter and 150 in circumference, was raised to the height of 42 feet. This structure, destined ultimately to form the descent for foot passengers, was three feet in thickness, and strengthened in various ways by iron rods passing up the centre, &c. The excavators now commenced their work on the inside, cutting away the ground which was raised to the top of the shaft by a steam engine. It is easy to comprehend, that by clearing away the earth inside, the whole must have descended, and in this manner a structure weighing upwards of 1200 tons was sunk in a body to a depth of 65 feet, passing through a bed of gravel and sand 26 feet deep, which had caused great inconvenience on a former attempt. A well or cistern 25 feet in diameter was further made at the bottom of this shaft for draining the ground, but in sinking it a quicksand suddenly burst upon the work, at about 85 feet from the level of high water, confirming the opinion of the geologists, and guiding the engineer in the selection of his level for the horizontal cutting.



The shaft completed, the tunnel itself was commenced at a depth of 63 feet. The excavation presents a sectional surface of 850 feet; being 38 feet in width, 22½ feet high, and arranged so as to form a double arcade each 15 ft. in height, and wide enough for a single carriage-way and a foot-path. The mode in which this excavation was accomplished has been the wonder





and admiration of the most experienced engineers, and will for ever remain a monument of the genius of its author. It was effected by a powerful apparatus of iron, designated a "shield." This shield consisted of 12 parallel frames 22 feet high, which were divided into three stories, and formed 36 cells destined for the miners, the whole constituting at the same time a powerful fence against the superincumbent earth. Each operator provided for the security of his own cell by covering the front with small boards; and as the miners proceeded in front, the bricklayers were no less actively employed in forming the archway in the rear. The first nine feet of the tunnel (commenced with the new year, 1826) were passed through firm clay; then came a loose watery sand, where every movement was made with imminent hazard. Thirty-two anxious days passed this part, and substantial ground being again reached about the middle of March, matters went on prosperously till September following, by which time 260 feet had been completed. The first serious irruption of the river took place on the 14th of this month, but having been anticipated by Mr. Brunel, no serious injury resulted to the works. Another month, and a similar occurrence took place, but additional precautions having been taken, the work was continued, and by the 2d of January, 1827, 350 feet of tunnel were accomplished. From the 14th of January to the 14th of April following, the progress of the work exceeded, upon the whole, that of any period during the course of the operation; but in consequence of the frequent run of fluid ground, the engineer procured a diving bell for the purpose of examining the bed of the river. The first inspection took place on the 22d of April, when some depressions were observed, and filled up by bags of clay armed with hazel rods. A shovel and hammer being accidentally left on this occasion in the river, were afterwards found during an influx of loose ground through the shield, having descended some 18 feet. This little circumstance shows the nature of the ground above, and the all but invincible difficulties through which the engineer had to make his way.

About the middle of May, 1827, some ships, coming in at a late tide, moored just over the tunnel, and the obstruction they offered to the water caused a great washing away of the soil beneath. The river soon made its way into the Tunnel, every exertion made to oppose it proved fruitless, and an irruption took place on the 18th. By the 21st of the next month the water was got under. On examination, the structure was found perfectly sound, and progress was recommenced. By January, 1828, the middle of the river had been reached, when the ground was again found to be in an exceedingly dangerous state. On the 12th in particular, the greatest precautions became necessary against a manifest danger. The men were ordered out in time, except four, whom Mr. Brunel, jun., selected to remain with him. Every exertion was made to oppose the mass of earth, but the ground, swelling and rolling in, as we are told of the progress of lava, became irresistible in its progress. One of the men, having executed his part, made his escape. Suddenly, as Mr. Brunel was directing the others how to save themselves, the ground burst in like a volcanic irruption, with a tremendous crash; all the lights were blown out at once. Through this total darkness Mr. Brunel reached the shaft, but the water was at the top before him. The men collected at the top had seen the waves close upon the scene before Mr. Brunel emerged from it. The three men were not so fortunate; three others were likewise lost, but these must have been the victims of their own imprudence and curiosity, as they had not been detained in the work. This calamity occurred at a critical time. The funds of the company were exhausted, and their confidence, in some measure, now also failed. On re-entering the tunnel, the engineer had the melancholy satisfaction of seeing the work as substantial as ever; but there was now too much reason to fear that the completion would never take place. For seven years from that time all was silence and darkness beneath those hollow roofs; and, had the matter thus ended, what would have been the judgment of posterity?—that the plan had failed! But the tunnel *was* to be completed,—he *was* to be the man!

In January, 1835, the Tunnel was again proceeded with; Government agreed to make advances, and the work was once more carried forward with renewed energy. Very slow, however, was the progress made. Of 66 weeks, 2 feet 4 inches only per week were accomplished during the first 18; 3 feet 9 inches during the second 18; 1 foot per week during the third; and during the last 12 weeks only 3 feet 4 inches altogether. This will excite little surprise when we know that the ground in front of the shield was, from excessive saturation, almost constantly in little better than a fluid state, that an entire new and artificial bed had to be formed in the river in advance, and brought down by ingenious contrivances till it was deep enough to occupy the place of the natural soil where the excavation was to be made, and that then there must be time allowed for its settlement, whenever the warning rush of sand and water was heard in the shield.

The last irruption occurred on the morning of the 6th of March, 1838, and was remarkable for the noise resembling thunder with which it was accompanied. Happily no loss of life occurred. All this while the Tunnel was every week approaching nearer and nearer to the goal of the engineer's hopes,—the opposite shore; and all parties began to feel the buoyancy of assured success inspiring them as they found the difficulties grow less and less formidable. They were, however, still sufficient to have paralysed any less energetic spirits than those who had brought the whole up that point. Here is an incident of so late date as 1840:—On the 4th of April, about eight o'clock in the morning, being then about low water, the top face of No. 12. was attempted; but no sooner was the poling-board removed than the second one canted over, and a quantity of gravel and water rushed into the frame, forcing out another of the boards. At the hole thus left unprotected, the ground rushed in with such impetuosity as to knock the men out of the shield; and they, being panic-struck, ran away, but finding that the water did not follow they returned to the scene of action, and after immense exertions succeeded in stopping the run, when upwards of six thousand cubic feet of ground had fallen into the Tunnel. The rush of the ground was attended with a very great noise, resembling the bursting of a thunder-cloud, and a general extinguishing of the lights. While this was taking place in the Tunnel, a still more unusual phenomenon was occurring on the shore at Wapping, where, to the astonishment and dismay of the neighbourhood, the ground commenced sinking gradually over an area of upwards of 700 feet, leaving a cavity on the shore of about 30 feet in diameter and 13 in depth. It was most fortunate that this occurred at low water, for at high water an irruption of the river would have been the inevitable consequence. A number of men were sent over, and the hole was filled with bags of clay and gravel, and everything rendered perfectly secure by the return of the tide.

The reward for every difficulty, anxiety, and suffering was however at last obtained; and it is pleasant even to record that on the 13th of August, 1841, Sir Isambard Brunel passed down the shaft recently erected on the Wapping side of the river, and thence by a small drift way through the shield into the Tunnel.

The Tunnel is now completed, and will be this day opened as a thoroughfare by his Grace the Duke of Wellington, who has from the period of its commencement taken a deep interest in the undertaking. We shall have much pleasure in laying before our subscribers, in our next impression, accurate delineations of the interesting ceremony.

The great circular shafts are now provided with handsome staircases for the accommodation of foot passengers. The carriage ways have yet to be constructed. Their plan is marked with the inventive ability that so eminently characterises the whole history of the Tunnel. They will each consist of an immense spiral road winding round a circular excavation 57 feet deep, in order to reach the proper level. The road itself will be 40 feet wide, and the descent very moderate.

The expenses of the Tunnel have of course been much greater than were contemplated; but they will not exceed the estimate presented to Government in 1837 by Mr. Walker, who had been appointed to examine into the state of the work. The grand total may be taken at about 614,000*l.*

We are indebted to Mr. Knight's excellent publication entitled "London" for many of the particulars contained in the above sketch.

We have to acknowledge the courtesy Sir Isambard Brunel showed our artist, when he applied for permission to make the drawings that accompany this notice, and at the same time to record the far, very far, different treatment he experienced on making a prior application to the secretary to the Tunnel Company, who gave him a flat rude refusal: "He wanted no publicity," was his reply. The publicity he did not want, however, is here accorded him.

COURT CIRCULAR.

Saturday afternoon her Majesty, Prince Albert, the Royal infants, and their suite, left town for Claremont, where her Majesty is expected to remain till the close of the week. Archdeacon Wilberforce officiated at divine service before the Queen and her illustrious consort.

The Queen Dowager and the Duchess of Kent attended divine service on Sunday morning, in the Chapel Royal, St. James's. The Bishop of Oxford preached from John iv.

H.R.H. Prince Adalbert of Prussia arrived at Claremont on Monday morning, to pay a visit to the Queen and Prince Albert. Prince Adalbert remained until 10 minutes before 4 o'clock, when he took his departure in two Royal carriages and four on his return to town.

Soon after the departure of Prince Adalbert, her Majesty and Prince Albert left Claremont for an airing in an open pony carriage, his Royal Highness driving.

The Duchess of Kent, attended by Lady Fanny Howard, visited the Queen Dowager on Tuesday. Her Royal Highness accompanied her Majesty in the evening to the Italian opera.

The Prince Royal of Wirtemberg intends paying a visit to England.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent arrived at Claremont at two o'clock on Wednesday afternoon in a carriage and four, from town, to pay a visit to the Queen. Her Royal Highness partook of a *déjeuné* with her Majesty and Prince Albert.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal were taken airings in Claremont Park.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert, attended by the Royal suite, arrived in town on Thursday, from Claremont.

LORD CHAMBERLAIN'S OFFICE, March 21. 1843. — Notice is hereby given, that his Royal Highness Prince Albert will, by the desire of her Majesty, hold levees at St. James's Palace, on behalf of her Majesty, on Wednesday, the 29th instant, and on Wednesday, the 26th of April next, both days at two o'clock.

The Pictorial Times.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 25. 1843.

LEGISLATIVE SENSIBILITY.—THE PRIZE RING.—DOGS AND MEN.

In the East, as travellers tell us, there are hospitals for fleas—asylums for things noisome to the imagination of less humane believers—where the abomination is tended and reared by human vigilance and human blood. How, in the pride of our civilisation, do we look down with disgust, or, at the best, a pitying contempt on the darkness of these miserable men! How, as Englishmen and Christians, we mourn over the ignorance and self-mortifying bigotry of the fakir, with his maimed joints, slashed flesh, and iron points and rings driven beneath his nails and hanging from his nostrils! Let us look at home: let us, for a time, set aside our self-complacency, and see if we have not fakirs in England,—if, whilst in the depths of what we consider sensibility and compassion for the lowest creatures, we do not permit the grossest violence, the most wicked injuries to God's image.

We take the following from the "Post" of Thursday:—

"BUNGAREE, THE AUSTRALIAN, AND SAMBO SUTTON, THE AMERICAN.—The fight between these parties, for 50*l.* a-side, came off on Tuesday, near Gravesend. On entering the ring, Sambo was considered in much better condition than when he before met his opponent on similar terms; and all the preliminaries having been arranged, the men commenced their contest, and after eight rounds having been fought, which occupied about sixteen minutes, Sambo Sutton was proclaimed the victor by his friends."

Now, if *Bungaree* had over-flogged an ass—if *Sambo Sutton* had plucked the feathers from a live goose, either offender would have been liable to punishment,—the benignity of the law, the extreme tenderness of the statutes protecting the beaten donkey, sympathising with the despoiled gander. It is quite otherwise with the human animal. No; the English fakir may make a market of the atrocities committed upon himself—may degrade and brutify his fellow man by familiarising him with scenes of violence and mercenary cruelty, and be "proclaimed victor by his friends." The law takes no account of the wrong and outrage done upon mere mortal man, but melts with overflowing eyes at "crimped cod," if crimped alive. Nay, in the vigilance of its humanity, the law walks Billingsgate, and with fingers tremulous with excess of sensibility, draws out the wooden plugs inserted in the claw-joints of live lobsters. Do we seek to ridicule this tenderness—would we, for a moment, sneer at this humanity towards creatures given to man for man's subsistence? Assuredly not; we are of the faith of WORDSWORTH—would disseminate that faith throughout the earth—

> Never to link our pleasure or our pride,
> With suffering of the meanest thing that lives.

But let us be consistent; let us not expend so much compassion upon the mere lobster that we have none left for ourselves. Let us not be law-makers to protect asses and geese, and leave our fellow-creatures to the malign influence of the brutalising prize-fighter—the ruffian biped of the ring.

In this last case of infamy, where, we ask, were the magistrates? Or does the town of Gravesend engross all the activity of their sensibilities? They have, we know, signalised their humanity by making special edicts for the protection of the asses of that favoured watering-place: could they spare no moment from their "labour of love" to prevent the misdoings of *Sambo Sutton* and *Bungaree?* It may be answered, that with the most vigilant magistrates, a couple of ruffians might find an opportunity for the performance of "eight rounds," if accomplished in "sixteen minutes." Allowing this, why is there no law to reach the prize-fighter *after* he has committed the offence? Such a law would effectually demolish the ring. Let the pugilist be alike answerable to the law with the perpetrator of every other misdemeanour; let Newgate be the place where the victor may hide his laurelled head, and a custom that brutalises the many for the gain of a few—a custom that encourages gambling in its very lowest and blackest phase—would be abolished once and for ever.

In the last week our legislators have been very busy in the matter of dogs. With an excess of humanity for the canine animal, they have put aside the consideration of their fellow-subjects, whose trade, nay, whose very livelihood, may in many cases be perilled by the ignorance of over-zealous sensibility. Mr. GRANTLEY BERKELEY has placed upon the Journals of the House a very sensible and argumentative "dissent from the Dog Cart Bill," which is only another instance of petty and frivolous legislation, to the forgetfulness and neglect of graver social interests. Mr. BERKELEY remarks, with great good sense,—

> "Superficial observers are not aware of the immense importance to thousands of poor families, who have not the means to keep a horse or ass, that the use of the dog is for the purposes of draught, particularly on many parts of the sea coast. They assist mothers in the conveyance of their children when forced to take them to the vicinity of their daily work, they carry fish up the country, and aid their masters materially in hundreds of occupations which would be affected by this Bill. In short, by denying the fair use of these animals to the humane and industrious poor, because there are some individuals brutally idle, you involve thousands and thousands in one common ruin."

It provokes a deeper emotion than that of ridicule or contempt to contrast the extreme tenderness of legislation towards the condition of the dog with the apathy which has suffered the accumulation of filth and misery in the abodes of the poor of the metropolis, and of the larger towns throughout England. Look at the thousand London alleys where typhus is ever latent; where the sweetening breath of heaven scarcely enters; where childhood sprawls in dirt and darkness; where every humanising influence is banished; where "man's life is cheap as beast's;" consider these dens of wretchedness, these caves and caverns engendering in the very heart of this magnificent metropolis (the mistress city of the world) disease and crime, and their miserable results; and when this abomination shall have ceased, then let us, in the leisure of our benevolence, turn from men to dogs. When we have indicated our sensibilities to the fullest towards our fellow-creatures, then let us consider the wants of curs.

It has been said (we know not how justly) of STERNE that he could weep over a dead ass, and at the same time utterly neglect the mother who bore him. If this be the spirit of STERNE, STERNE is surely represented in our present Parliament.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

WE have been powerfully affected by certain evidence adduced on the trial of three men at Derby, on Monday last, for a most atrocious murder. That evidence proves with terrible significance the moral abasement of our rural population. Three men, named *Bonsall*, *Bland*, and *Hulme*, break into a house in the township of Stanley, and savagely butcher an elderly woman. This is frightful; but, if possible, the more hideous part of the circumstance is developed in the evidence for the prosecution. The assassins, with their implements of murder prepared, with the very knife "sharpened" to do the deed of slaughter, leave their home, scarcely feigning any other purpose to disguise their bloodthirsty intention. They return, having slain their victim, and then begin to share the miserable booty. Mark the following evidence:—

Richard Dronfield. — Was a sweep, between 17 and 18 years old. Was in the employment of the prisoner Hulme on the 29th of September last. Saw Bonsall and Hulme together betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening, in Hulme's house. Bonsall asked if he was ready, and he said that he should be in a minute or two; and then he took out the staves, and Bonsall took the crowbar, which was about a yard long. The staves had lead fastened in at the end. Witness asked what they were going after, and Hulme said "it was nothing to him." They put the staves in their pockets. One said, "If there's any lover (money) we must jew him (meaning Bland) out of it." Hulme *whetted a knife*, and put it in his pocket. It was a razor blade, with a wooden haft put on. Witness slept at Hulme's house, and had been asleep when Hulme and Bonsall came in, somewhat about 2 or 3 o'clock, as nearly as he could tell; but there was no clock. Hulme had a bag, like a rag-gatherer. They laid it down, and began *to look out for blood upon them. There was blood on Bonsall's hand. Saw them scratching the blood off their shirt sleeves with their thumb nails.*

The miscreants make no secret of the murder, and the witness goes on trippingly with his tale, as if he were recounting a no very extraordinary accident of life; in fact, as though narrating a story of every day existence. It was clear to him that the assassins contemplated murder; they leave the house, he remains behind; he runs to no neighbour, he gives no alarm, but goes to sleep, waking only when the wretches come back, who then "look out for blood upon them."

Come we to the next witnesses: —

Joseph Simpson, needlemaker at Heage. —Went to Derby on Saturday, the 1st of October last, and there heard of the murder. In consequence of something that he had heard he sent his servant girl to Hulme's. He saw Hulme, and said, "Jack, you've been and made *a pretty job of it.*" Hulme said, "Why, lad?" Witness said that "all Derby was up, and they say one of the old ladies is dead." He said, "it was a bad job." He said he must tell Bonsall, and Bonsall must tell Bland.

Elizabeth Simpson partially corroborated her husband's testimony.

Simpson, the needlemaker, and *Simpson's* wife, treat the matter with the same indifference as *Dronfield*. *Simpson* talks of the atrocity to the assassin himself as no more than the mere gossip of the day: the wretch admits to him the heinousness of his guilt, nevertheless *Simpson* suffers him to escape. Murder has been committed; it was "a pretty job," no more.

We confess that this evidence appears to us pregnant with the worst of evils. It displays, in the most terrible light, a callousness, an indifference to wrong and violence, we fear fast increasing among the lower classes. These proofs of the deterioration of the moral standard of our humbler countrymen should not be lost on those men whose sacred duty it is, by personal intercourse, by personal attention, — by carrying into the very homes—to the very firesides of the poor, the influence of pure precept and spotless example, — to instruct and elevate the character of those confided by providence to their teaching. These appalling tragedies are nine times out of ten born of the direst ignorance; an ignorance of all things, alike divine and human. These miserable evil-doers, victims of their own iniquities, are suffered to grow from infancy to manhood, untaught, uncared for; they are too often neglected, like the mere beast of the field, and like the beast they acknowledge no power, save that of their own animal instinct. We repeat it: a heavy responsibility rests upon the teachers of the poor.

THE LUXURY OF BEDLAM.

"There is a pleasure in being mad which none but madmen know." This is an axiom attributed to a poetic lunatic. However, to believe our contemporaries — who, we presume, would not themselves plead monomania — the axiom is a fallacy. They are not mad, yet are they continually chaunting the joys of insanity. In D'Israeli's *Curiosities of Literature* is the song of a "Tom O'Bedlam," in which his abiding-place is thus eulogised: —

> In the lovely lofts of Bedlam,
> In stubble soft and dimity,
> Brave bracelets strong,
> Sweet whips, ding, dong,
> And a wholesome hunger plenty.

Our contemporaries — if we may judge by the tenor of their discourses on madmen and madhouses — might surely join in chorus with the above. They have contended again and again that the seclusion of Bedlam — the quietude of its walls — its convenience for study — the meals ready at the given hour without the necessity of any exertion on the part of the feeder, — that all these manifold advantages are so many baits, seductive lures, thrown out to the thousands of destitute and starving Englishmen to do some act of madness, that they may be housed and provided for during their existence. And is it come to this? Are Englishmen, above all others, so careless of liberty — hold they their freedom at so cheap a price, that for a roof to cover them, and victuals to eat, they will barter away the blessing, and pass their lives in wearing, wasting, hopeless captivity? Is Bedlam, then, no prison, but a large hermitage, where "through the loop-holes of retreat" men may spy the world, and act philosophers? How shallow, how false, how injurious is it in public writers to attempt to hang the cell of the madman with ideal roses— to give an air of "learned leisure" to the employment of the state lunatic — to make Bedlam an abode of peace and plenty. "Look at Oxford," cry some of our contemporaries, "he is allowed to learn French!" Say that he had learned as many languages as Magliabechi, of what would they avail him in his hopeless imprisonment? "He has learned to draw and paint," cry others. Allow that he will enrich his prison walls with the sunlight of a Claude, the walls would be no less stone — would no less hold him within their cincture, until death — slow-coming death — should remove him from this earth. Talk of transportation, why to our mind, it must be a dwelling in the Fortunate Isles compared to the corroding daily life of a man like Oxford, on the very threshold of manhood, doomed to grey hairs — if time grant them — in Bedlam. Consider the wretchedness of his lot; the frightful monotony of his existence; and then ye writers, who by the magic of your quills would turn a mad-house into a palace, pause before you insult the English character by insisting that the liberty of a whole life is more than repaid by board and lodging, and hopeless solitude in the very worst of gaols.

Mr. Walter unseated. — The Nottingham Election Committee were occupied all day on Thursday with the reply of Mr. Austin. At the close of the learned counsel's speech the room was cleared, and the committee remained in deliberation until the Speaker was in the chair, when it was announced to the counsel that the committee had decided that Mr. Walter was not duly elected, but that it would be necessary to obtain the permission of the house to continue sitting, in order to draw up their formal resolutions, and report to the house. This permission having been obtained, the committee again sat with closed doors, until shortly after five; and the resolutions having been agreed to, the chairman subsequently reported them to the house.

On Wednesday evening a meeting of about 1200 Chartists, from various parts of the metropolis, took place in the hall of the Political Institution, Turnagain Lane, Snow Hill, for the purpose of hearing Mr. O'Connor give an account of the proceedings at Lancaster. After a detailed statement, Mr. O'Connor received the thanks of the meeting for his conduct on the occasion, and it soon after broke up.

Death of the Poet Laureate. — We regret to state that Robert Southey, the Poet Laureate, died at his residence at Keswick on Tuesday last. For some years past the intellect of the deceased was clouded by insanity. The greatest of "the Lakers," Wordsworth, now alone remains.

A report is very current in distinguished circles that Miss Coutts Burdett is at length about to bestow her hand in marriage, and Lord Wiltshire, the eldest son of the Marquis of Winchester, and colonel of a Dragoon regiment, is mentioned as the favoured suitor. Lord Charles Wellesley will, we also hear, shortly lead to the altar Lady Mary Cecil, the accomplished daughter of the Marquis of Salisbury.

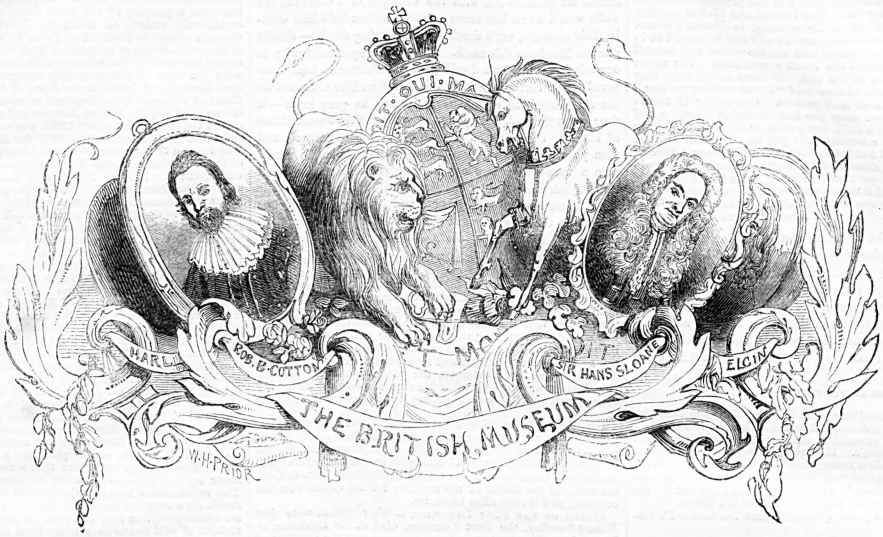
Madame Ronsi de Regnis, who about twenty years ago was a great favourite with the frequenters of the Italian Opera, is engaged at Covent Garden theatre. She appears in Norma, in which she created a great sensation about six years since at La Scala, in Milan, where her performance of the part was preferred to that of either Pasta or Malibran. Madame Ronsi is a very fine woman, and one of the best actresses in Europe. She is engaged at a salary of 100*l.* per week, and as she stipulates to sing only three nights out of the six, she will receive 33*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for each performance.

Balfe's opera, after several postponements, came out, or was fixed to come out, at the Opera Comique in Paris, on Wednesday evening. Madame Anna Thillon, who appears as the *prima donna*, is engaged at the Princess's theatre, and was to have come over at about this time, but the French manager has postponed her *congé*, in order to avoid any interruption to the run of Balfe's opera, in the event of its proving successful. The music is much admired by the private friends of the composer; but after the mistake that has been made in the anticipatory judgments formed of the grand opera of *Charles the Sixth*, which has almost failed at the academy, it is hazardous to predict what will be the decision of the public.

Madame Albertazzi is daily expected in London. Such is the competition among the principal London managers for the possession of talent of a superior kind, that one enterprising *entrepeneur* has stationed persons at the Custom-house, waiting the arrival of the packets, and armed with authority to treat at once with the accomplished vocalist.

CAUSERIE.

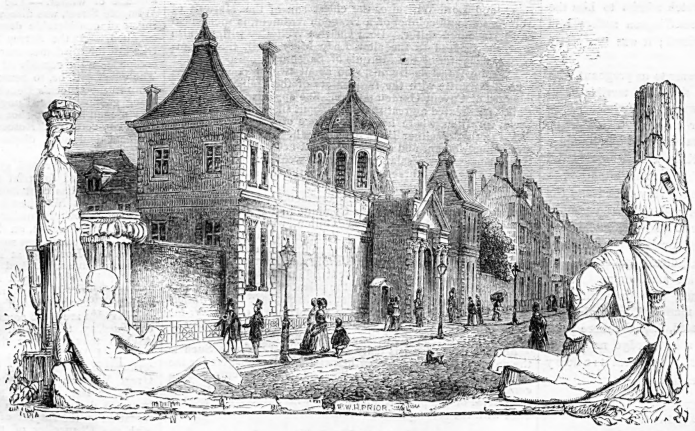
Prince Albert has sent to Alderman Thomas Johnson, as a donation to Christ's Hospital, the sum of 500*l.* — Bacon is now selling at Wootton Bassett at 2½*d.* per lb., Hamburgh at 1¾*d.* per lb., Canadian butter at 3½*d.*, and "prime Cheddar cheese" at 2½*d.* — The amount of the Presbyterian Bicentenary Fund in Ireland is calculated at 20,000*l.* — At the adjourned Surrey Sessions on Monday, there was an unusually full attendance of justices, owing to the election for a surgeon to the county gaol. There were no fewer than twenty candidates for the situation. Mr. Meymott was elected. — The manor of Cheltenham has just undergone a change of owners, Lord Sherborne having "signed, sealed, and delivered" the conveyance of his manorial rights and immunities to J. A. Gardner, Esq., who has become the purchaser for the sum of 39,000*l.* — A paper was read at the last meeting of the Geographical Society by Mr. Higgs, "On the progressive rise of the river Thames," as indicated by the necessity for constantly increasing the height of the Thames marsh walls, by the fact of old causeways found below the present level of high water in the river, and by other collateral evidence. — There are in the United States just 100 soldiers of the Revolution on the pension list over 100 years of age. The oldest man on the list is Michael Hale, of Union County, Pennsylvania, who is in his 115th year. — Prince Louis Bonaparte has exhibited to the Scientific Congress at Florence, some platina gilt by De la Rive's process, and observes that this metal takes the gilding better than silver. — It is proposed to raise 500*l.* by subscription, for the purpose of erecting a suitable monument over the place where the remains of John Bunyan are interred in Bunhill Fields burying-ground. — The Earl of Erne was chairman of a public meeting at Enniskillen, on Saturday, to raise a monument to the late General Sir Lowry Cole. — The following are some of the items of expenditure for last year: — Issued on account of Lord Ashburton's special mission to America, 5877*l.*; Sir Henry Pottinger's mission to China, 7900*l.*; Mr. Ellis's mission to Brazil, 2000*l.*; for expenses incurred in the alteration of the arms of the Prince of Wales, 55*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*; fitting up of St. George's Chapel, and other incidental expenses at the christening of the Prince, 2500*l.*; expenses attending the trial of M'Leod in the United States amounted to 2753*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.* — A government contract has just been announced for 100,000 gallons of rum for the use of her Majesty's navy, one half to be West Indian. — The Marine Good Service pension of 300*l.* a-year has been given to Major General Tremenheere, R.M., whose term of service reaches sixty-four years. — On the afternoon of the 12th, the first bull-fight for the season was held at Madrid, and a matador and banderillero were severely wounded by the "lord of the pastures." The matador has since died. — The Lords of the Admiralty have bestowed a gratuity of 15*l.* upon John Allen, whose leg was accidentally broken on board the Black Eagle during the Queen's voyage to Scotland. — From Trinidad, accounts come of the continuation of emigration from the shores of Africa, to supply the wants of the colonists with labour. The Kroomen were the class of people mostly engaged. — A new writ has been issued for Athlone, in the room of Mr. D. Ferral. — The Court of Policy at Demarara held an extraordinary meeting on the news of the disasters at Antigua and other British islands, and at Guadaloupe, at which 1000*l.* was voted for the relief and assistance of the former, and 500*l.* for the French colony. — The amount of the subscriptions paid into the central committee of the Guadaloupe Relief Fund, Paris, up to the 18th instant, was 279,347*f.* Messrs. Sempé and Co., merchants of Bordeaux, have placed at the disposal of the government a vessel of 300 tons, to transport gratuitously provisions and other articles for the use of the distressed colonists. — The increase of steam tonnage at Southampton is worthy of notice. Twenty years ago a steam vessel was known only by name, whilst on Sunday last the river contained in commission 24 steamers (which is no unusual occurrence), measuring in the aggregate 12,000 tons, and giving employment to 800 men, and causing the expenditure of at least 50,000*l.* per annum in the town. — The Rev. Dr. Bailey, who was convicted of forgery, and sentenced to be transported for fifteen years, has been removed to Woolwich, previous to his leaving this country for New South Wales. — Charles Foote, one of the waiters at the Senior United Service Club, has absconded from that establishment, carrying off with him about 100*l.* — Mr. Galt, who has resided seven years in Canada, is now returned to this country, with the view of facilitating the settlement of the lands of the British American Company. — Hastings Moore, formerly a Custom-house officer, was fined 7*l.* 10*s.* and costs, or in default six months' imprisonment, for smuggling 9lbs. of foreign manufactured tobacco and cigars, two packs of foreign playing cards, two pints of a cordial called Curaçoa, and a pint and a half of rum. — The Post Office have given notice that a ship letter mail will be made up every Saturday during the season for Rotterdam. — The negociations between the French and Sardinian governments for a treaty of commerce have been suspended, but hopes are entertained that they will soon be resumed. — An unusual number of wild swans have lately been seen on the coast and lakes of Morayshire, a proof of the existence of rough and stormy weather in the more northern regions. The rushing sound and peculiar cry of this bird when a flock of them are on the wing, have a striking and pleasing effect amidst the dreary solitude of winter. —The Hon. Lady Murray's House, 63. Wimpole Street, was discovered to be on fire on Tuesday evening, and considerable damage was done before the fire was subdued. — At the Surrey Sessions, the grand jury returned a true bill for misdemeanour against Frederick Ludford, for an escape from the custody of the marshal of the Queen's Bench. The effect will be, to remove the defendant from the strong-room in the Queen's Bench to the felons' side of Horsemonger Lane gaol. — The "Longford Journal" mentions a rumour that a man had been shot on the night of Wednesday last, at Kilgevin, county of Roscommon, for taking land from which a tenant had been dispossessed. — Harriet Oakley, charged with stealing a 50*l.* Bank of England note, the property of Mr. Wyatt, carver and gilder, No. 360. Oxford Street, was fully committed for trial by Mr. Maltby. — C. B. Adderley, Esq., M. P., has contributed 100*l.* towards the erection of a new church at Manchester. — Grisi, Mario, and Lablache are expected in town immediately after the closing of the Theâtre Italien for the season, on the 31st inst. — A draft from the stud of Lord Lynedoch was sold by auction on Monday, by direction of his Lordship, at Tattersall's. — The Citizens' Club of Kilkenny have subscribed twenty guineas to the fund for the relief of the Irish poor in Paisley. — The railroad from Hanover to Brunswick is announced to be completed by next autumn. The railroads from Hanover to Bremen, Hamburg, and Minden are also to be constructed at the expense of the state. — On Tuesday, the annual general meeting of the Caledonian Asylum took place at the Freemasons' Tavern. Lord J. Stuart, M. P., presided, and the report congratulated the subscribers on the increasing prosperity of the institution. — The Great Western was to leave New York for Liverpool on Thursday last, and may be expected about the 29th or 30th inst. — A deputation from the county of Bedford, with a representation on the subject of the Income Tax, had an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Monday. — Two noble defenders of the Polish cause, Prince Gabriel Oginski and the Countess Plater, have just died; the former at Wilna, the second at Posen. — The usual quarterly meeting of East India proprietors was held on Wednesday. — Meetings of the vestries of St. Marylebone and St. Pancras were held on Wednesday, at which it was agreed that, with the co-operation of other parishes, and the assistance of the members for the borough of Marylebone and others, the bill for the repeal or amendment of Sir J. Hobhouse's Act should be watched in Parliament, with a view to oppose the measure. — Remittances from America continue to pour into the coffers of the Loyal Repeal Association. The contributors style themselves "Friends of Ireland," their amity being manifested in denunciations of the most rancorous hatred towards England. — More than 30,000 accidents requiring hospital assistance annually occur in the metropolis. — A third dividend of the estate of Messrs. Batson and Co., of the Tweed Bank, it is understood, will be declared in June, when it is calculated that the separate creditors of Mr. Wilson will receive payment in full. — The Chamber of Commerce of Mulhausen has determined to send out three agents to China, to examine what commercial intercourse it would be possible to establish between the two countries. — Two persons of colour, styling themselves as the Prince and Princess Louis Napoleon Christophe, of St. Domingo, landed at Southampton on Monday. Their Highnesses came from St. Thomas's, having been visiting many of the West India islands for pleasure, and have arrived in this country in the same pursuit. — Three men named Woods, Dickenson, and Woolf, all belonging to Bolton-le-Sands, were engaged on the Lancaster sands shrimping, when on Thursday they were overtaken by the flowing tide, and all drowned. — Sir R. Peel, the Duke of Wellington, and the Ministers, are invited to the Mansion House to dinner on the 5th. — The following gentlemen have been appointed magistrates for the county of Surrey: — John Sims, Esq., Belvedere House, Lambeth; C. M. Rossiter, Esq., Borough; Edward Scard, Esq., Kew; T. Weeding, Esq., Mecklenburgh Square. — The Jupiter, 80 guns, and another (French) line-of-battle ship have been ordered to proceed to Guadaloupe with assistance. — It appears there is no truth in the current report that the Hon. Arthur Cole is about to resign his seat for Enniskillen, and to be succeeded by his nephew, the Hon. John Cole, brother to the present earl. — The Irish Attorney General, Mr. T. B. C. Smith, was elected member for Ripon, on Saturday, in the place of Mr. Pemberton, resigned. There was of course no opposition. — The trial of Cooper and others for sedition at Stafford commenced on Monday morning, and promised to occupy all the week, if not longer.



THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

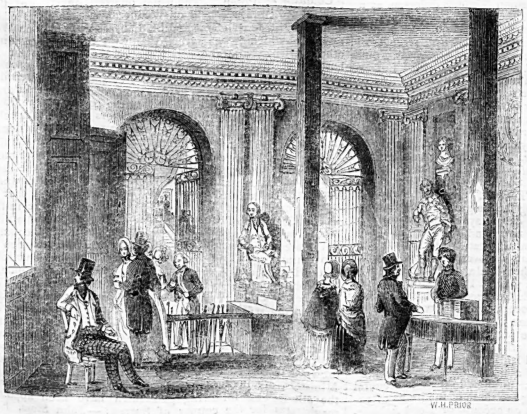
The last remnants of Montague House are doomed speedily to make way for a structure more suitable to the purposes of a national museum, and ere the present building becomes a thing of the past we hasten to illustrate it, in connection with the treasures, natural and artistic, which it contains.

About ninety years since, the idea of forming a library and museum for the benefit of the public first occurred to the government, and the nucleus of the present collection consisted principally of the MSS. bequeathed to the nation by Sir Robert Cotton, and the printed books, manuscripts, and collection of natural curiosities belonging to Sir Hans Sloane, which were purchased of his executors. The trustees appointed to attend to the management of this collection purchased Montague House, which had been built about the year 1680, by the first Duke of Montague, who, being at that time ambassador at Paris, sent over the celebrated architect Peter Puget, in company with a number of French artists, to erect and adorn his intended mansion. About the beginning of the present century, considerable additions were made to the original building for the reception of a collection of ancient marbles; but at the present time the whole of the first structure, as well as these additions, are in the course of demolition, to make way for a more appropriate, extensive, and elegant pile. When Montague House was first devoted to its present purposes, it stood at the northern extremity of the town, looking out upon a large extent of green fields, the place of which is now occupied by rows of stately houses, extending in every direction. In 1780, during the disastrous riots which then took place, an encampment of volunteer regiments was formed in the gardens of the building.

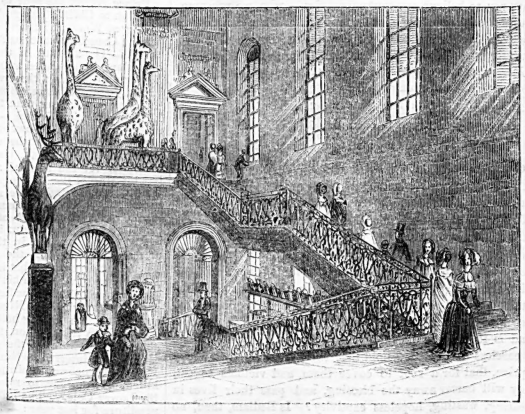


THE MUSEUM FROM GREAT RUSSELL STREET.

Sir Hans Sloane, who is popularly considered the founder of the British Museum, was a native of Down in Ireland. He appears to have had a liberal education, and devoted his studies to medicine with so much success, that in 1687, when only 27 years of age, he was elected member of the College of Physicians. But he had imbibed a strong love for the study of nature; and in the pursuit of this his favourite taste,



THE ENTRANCE HALL.



THE STAIRCASE.

he left England the same year for the West Indies, as physician to the Duke of Albemarle, the governor of Jamaica. At his patron's death he returned to his native country, bringing with him a valuable collection of dried plants which he had collected at the various islands, together with much valuable information as to their uses: this formed the foundation for his celebrated collection; and at the end of his life he calculated that, independent of his herbarium, he possessed as many as 30,600 specimens of natural history.

George the First, to whom he was physician, conferred upon him the dignity of Baronet, an honour then for the first time bestowed upon a medical man. After filling many dignified offices in the scientific world, he was elected, in 1727, President of the Royal Society, and continued to fill the office until 1740, when, at the age of fourscore, he retired to the manor-house at Chelsea, where he spent the remainder of his days in peace, and expired in 1753, in the ninety-second year of his age. He was buried in Chelsea churchyard, where his monument still forms a very conspicuous object; it is erected near the south-east corner of the burying ground.

The memory of Sir Hans Sloane would, without reference to his museum, have been handed down to posterity by his writings on the West Indies, and nearly forty scientific papers published in the "Transactions of the Royal Society." His museum he bequeathed to the British public on condition of their paying to his heirs the sum of 20,000*l.*, which it is said merely equalled the intrinsic value of the medals, minerals, and gems it contained, besides his natural curiosities. His library, containing 50,000 volumes of books and manuscripts, were included in the bequest. Parliament accepted the terms proposed by Sloane, and, adding the library of Sir Richard Cotton, and the manuscripts of Harley, they formed, as we have already said, the foundation of the British Museum.

The representation we have given of the original building will convey a better idea of its construction than the most laboured description. The principal front faces Great Russell Street. Passing through the folding gates, we enter the large quadrangle of the court-yard, on the south side of which is an Ionic colonnade; and immediately opposite the entrance to the hall the staircase leading to the first floor is ornamented with a series of paintings: those on the ceiling are by a French artist named Charles de la Forse, and represent the well-known story of Phœbus soliciting Apollo for leave to drive the chariot of the sun; but the whole of this part of the structure as we have already observed, will in the course of a few months be razed to the ground. The contents of this building are so vast in extent and various in their nature, that the space allotted to their description will scarcely suffice for the purpose; we shall endeavour, however, to give a cursory glance at the treasures it contains.

The Library may perhaps be considered the most valuable part of the contents of the British Museum. It is stated by Sir Henry Ellis to consist of about 240,000 volumes. The original catalogue of this library, interleaved for the purpose of inserting the additions which have been made to it, consists of forty-eight volumes, that of the library of George the Third, presented to the museum by his successor, of five folio volumes, and one volume of the maps and drawings contained in the same collection. In manuscripts the Museum is extremely rich; and, among others, may be mentioned those in the Cotton Library already noticed, the Harleian Collection, those belonging to the King's Library, the Lansdowne and Cole's Collection, the more recent additions of the Burney and Arundel manuscripts, and many others we have not space to notice. The reading rooms, in which the contents of this valuable library can be consulted, are two large and well-ventilated apartments placed at the north-east angle of the new buildings, near to Russell Square; and the freedom with which the books can be consulted by the readers is forcibly contrasted with the regulations of foreign libraries, where, although in many instances the public are indiscriminately admitted on certain days, the facilities of consulting the contents of the library are so few as to render the admission to the room almost useless.

The prints, of which there is an extremely valuable collection, are preserved in a separate room.

In the entrance hall are well executed statues of Shakspeare, Sir Joseph Banks, and the Honourable Mrs. Damer.

On the first floor is a curious collection of objects from the South Sea Islands, New Zealand, and other remote parts of the world.

The collection of natural history is very extensive, and is receiving constant addition, the room containing the birds being particularly deserving of notice. Reptiles, fishes, and other marine animals are preserved in spirits and offer many interesting objects for examination; and the specimens of the habitations of those mysterious agents of nature, the coral insects, are perhaps the finest ever brought so far from the spot where

. . . . the wisdom of man they mock,
With sand-based structures and domes of rock;
Their columns the fathomless fountains lave,
And their arches spring up to the crested wave.

The fossil remains of former worlds are also seen in great variety, astonishing the spectator with their strange and uncouth forms.

The collection of minerals is extremely valuable and well arranged, exhibiting the metals and other elementary substances under all their varied forms and combinations.

The vivid colours of insects being so easily damaged by exposure to light, a few only, but sufficient to illustrate the principal genera, are arranged for inspection; the remainder of the valuable collection is contained in closed cabinets, and can be consulted by application to the officer to whose care they are consigned.

The medals and coins contained in the Museum are very numerous and rare, but on account of their extreme value and small size they are not exhibited to the public; but these also can be consulted, under certain restrictions, by application to their custodian.

That part of the stores of the Museum which comes under the general head of antiquities or sculptures, may be divided into several sections. The Egyptian remains claim the first notice, on account of their extreme antiquity. Many of the sculptures were collected by the French in different parts of Egypt, and afterwards came into possession of the British army. The most curious and interesting of the whole of these is the Rosetta stone; it is a mass of black basalt, and is covered on one side with an inscription written in three kinds of characters, the hieroglyphic or sacred character used by the priests, the demotic or common character of the Egyptian people, and the Greek. It is the principal key we possess to the translation of the hieroglyphics on the monuments of Egypt; for as the inscriptions are evidently the same, if the Greek is understood, it will to a certain extent assist us in decyphering the other portions of the sculpture.

The domestic antiquities of Egypt, including all the articles of the lady's toilet, even a most elaborately plaited wig, painter's palettes and brushes, carpenter's tools, &c., and a store of mummies, mummy-cases, and jewels, seals, necklaces, &c. fill another large and elegant room.

The Greek and Roman sculptures occupy several long galleries, and contain many famous specimens of ancient art. The terra cottas or models in baked clay are admirable for their freedom of execution and good state of preservation.

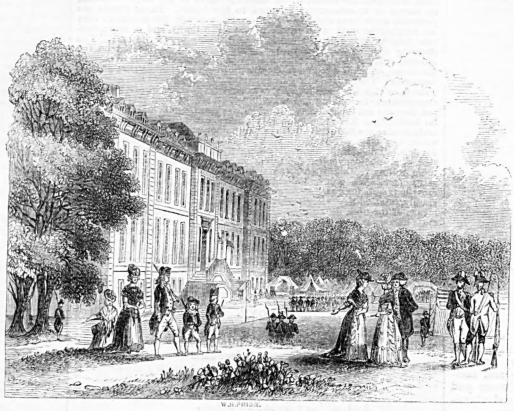
The Phigalian saloon contains many instances of the earliest Greek sculpture, and the rude and forcible execution of their workmanship affords a striking contrast to the more finished labours of the Elgin marbles, which are displayed in the adoining room.

The room to which these celebrated marbles are now removed is excellently adapted for the purpose of their display, both as regards its size and the mode in which it is lighted. The Elgin marbles are mostly basso relievos and fragments of statuary, which formerly adorned the Parthenon or temple of Minerva at Athens. Lord Elgin, in 1799, was appointed ambassador at Constantinople, and conceived the idea of having drawings and casts made of the remains of antiquity at this famous Athenian temple. For some time he met with considerable opposition from the Turkish authorities, until at length on Bonaparte being obliged to abandon Egypt, the Turks looked with a more favourable eye upon the representative of this country, and he obtained a firman from the Turkish Government, in which it was stated "that he might view, draw, and model the ancient temples of the idols, and the sculptures upon them, and make excavations, and *take away any stones* that might appear interesting to him." Armed with this power he went farther than his original intention, and instead of bringing away drawings and casts of the objects, he dispatched to England as much of the sculpture itself as he could manage, the Turks offering no opposition to his proceedings. At the time this was done considerable clamour was raised against this desecration, as it was called, of the temple of Minerva, so dear to the scholar from many a classical reminiscence. Lord Byron's lines are well known.

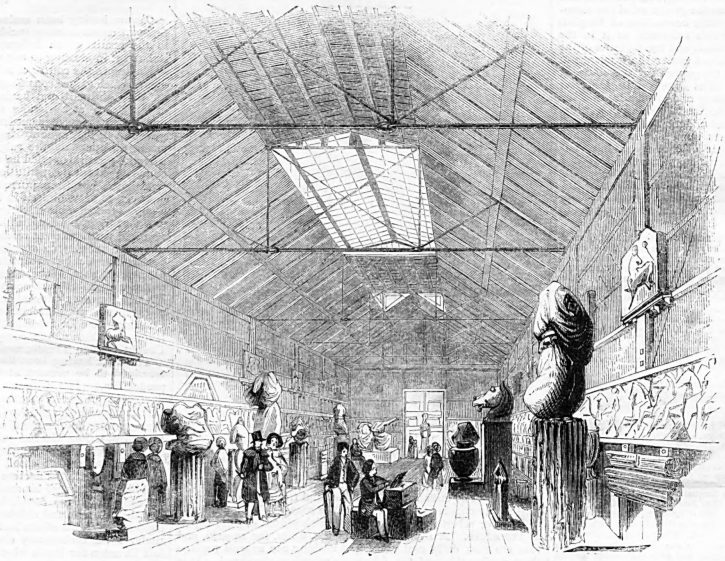
Cold as the crags upon his native coast,
His mind as barren and his heart as hard,
So he whose head conceived, whose hand prepared,
Aught to displace Athena's poor remains:
Her sons too weak the sacred shrine to guard,
Yet felt some portion of their mother's pains,
And never knew, till then, the weight of despots' chains.

The marbles were however safely landed in England, and in 1815 Parliament secured them to the nation by purchasing them of Lord Elgin for the sum of 35,000*l.*, a price which, according to the evidence of our most celebrated artists, they well deserved.

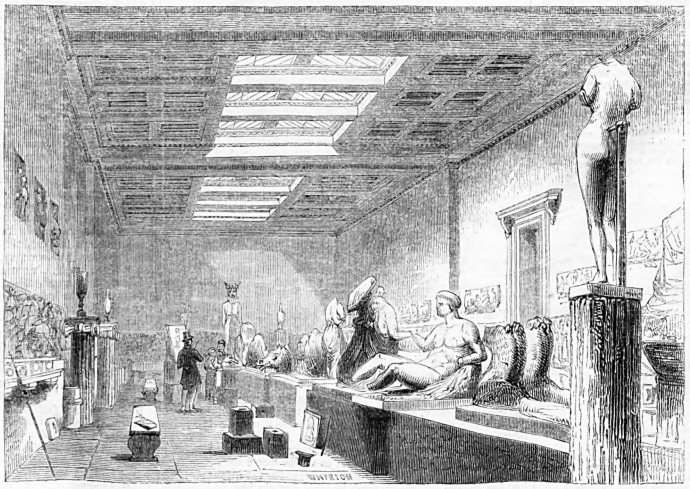
Sir Robert Cotton, whose valuable collection formed the corner-stone of the present library of the British Museum, lived during the reigns of Elizabeth, James, and the first Charles, and being consulted by the privy council, on account of his antiquarian knowledge on various matters relating to the constitution, in expressing his opinions on these and other subjects, he usually sided with the monarch by whom he was at the time employed; but when in the reign of Charles the First, a project for raising the nominal value of the coin of the realm was submitted to him, his better feelings revolted from the iniquitous plan, and he expressed his opinions boldly on the subject before the privy council: in consequence of this behaviour he incurred the enmity of the court, and suffered imprisonment; in 1629 he was summoned before the privy council, when his library was sealed; and although ultimately he recovered his liberty, he never again came into possession of the valuable collection to obtain which had been the task of the greater portion of his life.



BACK FRONT, WITH ENCAMPMENT OF THE VOLUNTEERS.



THE OLD ELGIN ROOM.



THE PRESENT ELGIN ROOM.

DECORATIVE NEEDLE WORK.

What place so proper as the Lady's Page for descant upon Miss Lambert's volume —*The Handbook of Decorative Needle-work*, — a new edition of which claims our critical attention to the mysteries of

> The needle, prov'd an instrument
> Of profit, pleasure, and of ornament,
> Which mighty queens have graced in hand to take.

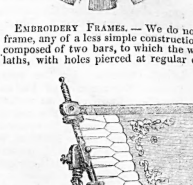
And strange and startling to the uninitiate are the terms and kinds of knowledge here displayed; the curious forming a mingled yarn with the useful, queens and princesses figuring in the new light of good sempstresses, and kings and conquerors as admirers and patrons of needlework. Homer and Pliny are claimed as authorities for the antiquity and classicality of the craft, and Penelope is introduced weaving

> ——a web of many a slender twine,
> Of curious texture and perplex'd design.

We have Matilda, the queen of the Conqueror, quoted as the "manufacturer" of the far-famed needlework of Bayeux, and English poets and English historians hailing with pleasure, and describing with a kindly satisfaction the gentle art of the sempstress as alike the usual and appropriate occupation of English wife and English maiden. Addison's reference to it in the "Spectator" is of course not forgotten, and the fortunes of the needle from the days of its evolutions under the guidance of the Grecian maidens as they wove the peplus for the statue of Minerva, to the later glories of Miss Linwood in Leicester Square, are chronicled both pleasantly and profitably in Miss Lambert's pages. Clever in crochet, and knowing in knitting and netting, she is undoubted in embroidery, and becomes perfectly diplomatic in her cleverness upon Berlin wool; and despite slight traces here and there of a certain hue, and some evidences of painstaking book manufacture, this is a pleasant book, a good book, and a book worthy to be bought by mothers and daughters, and studied *con amore* in quiet parlours and snug nurseries. It is well produced. Its knowledge is practical, as a few extracts, which may be of advantage to our readers, will best show:

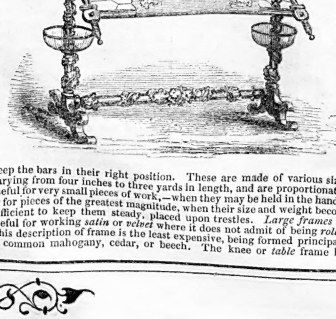
NETTING NEEDLES AND MESHES. — For netting purses, and other small articles, steel needles and meshes are always employed, and those of the highest finish are to be preferred. The mesh or pin, which determines the size of the netting, is a plain polished piece of steel wire of any suitable diameter, and like the knitting-needles, measured by a guage. The needle is of flattened wire, and cut into a fork of two prongs at each end, the ends of the prongs meeting and forming a blunt point, which will allow of it being passed either end foremost through a small loop. The silk is wound upon the needle, by passing it alternately between the prongs at each end, so that the turns of the silk may be parallel to the length of the needle, and be kept on it by the forks. The excellence of the needle depends upon the points of the prongs being true and close together. For the coarser kinds of netting, needles and meshes of ivory, boxwood, &c. are employed.

CROCHET AND TAMBOUR NEEDLES. — Crochet needles, sometimes called *shepherds' hooks*, are made of steel, ivory, or boxwood. They have a hook at one end, similar in shape to the barb of a fish-hook, by which the wool or silk is caught and drawn through the work. These instruments are to be procured of various sizes, but their excellence depends more on the proper fashioning of the hook, than on the material of which they are manufactured. The smaller sizes, and those used for tambour work, must necessarily be of steel; these are frequently made of the length of an ordinary sized sewing needle, that they may be fixed into a handle, which, by means of a small screw, is capable of holding needles of various sizes. The larger steel crochet needles are sometimes made with a fixed ivory or ebony handle, others entirely of steel. They are generally about four or five inches in length. Ivory needles are also made of various sizes, and with differently formed hooks, according to the dimensions of the thread they are intended to carry.



FILIERE. — A filière or guage is a steel instrument with graduated holes, or notches round its edges, distinguished by different figures. It is used by wire-drawers for ascertaining the sizes of their wires, and is applied in a similar manner, for measuring the diameters of netting and knitting needles; thus, — when speaking of the relative size of these needles, they are frequently designated by their corresponding numbers; but, as has been before observed, there appears to be no universal standard.

EMBROIDERY FRAMES. — We do not acknowledge as an embroidery frame, any of a less simple construction than the flat or four-piece frame, composed of two bars, to which the webbings are attached, and two side laths, with holes pierced at regular distances for receiving the pegs to



keep the bars in their right position. These are made of various sizes, varying from four inches to three yards in length, and are proportionately useful for very small pieces of work, — when they may be held in the hand, — or for pieces of the greatest magnitude, when their size and weight become sufficient to keep them steady, placed upon trestles. *Large frames* are useful for working *satin* or *velvet* where it does not admit of being *rolled*. This description of frame is the least expensive, being formed principally of common mahogany, cedar, or beech. The knee or *table* frame has a flat piece of wood forming the stand, whereon two upright pieces are fixed to support the frame, which can be adjusted at any angle required, by means of thumb-screws attached to the joints. These frames are generally made from eight to twenty-seven inches in the webbing; they are adapted for work of all widths within these limits, and of any moderate length, where it will not injure by rolling round the bars. The standing frame consists of two upright pieces with feet placed on the ground, connected together by a cross bar or *stretcher*; these support the frame, which is fixed on the top in the same manner as that already described. They vary in size, from twenty inches to a yard and a quarter. Frames of this kind are sometimes made with toothed wheels and other contrivances, for rolling and unrolling the work without taking it out; but they are apt to get out of order, and are more clumsy and less suitable for ladies, than those of a more simple construction. Both standing and table frames are frequently made of the finest and most expensive woods, when they may be rendered most elegant pieces of furniture for the boudoir. The upright frames have sometimes baskets attached at either side, — at once convenient and ornamental. Embroidery frames require to be well made, that when screwed together they may be perfectly firm and *square*. When of a moderate size, those in which the side-laths or cross-bars are formed into screws are preferable, as they can be more readily, and with greater precision, adjusted to the required width, by means of the nuts. The greatest essential in a good frame is, that the cross bars, as well as the rollers on which the webbing is fixed, should be sufficiently stout to prevent its *twisting* or bending when the work is tightly stretched in it.

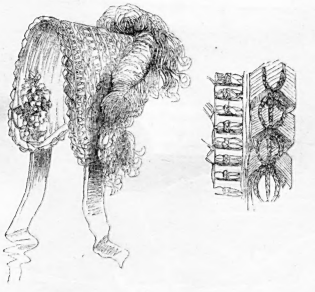
We shall recur to this work, and select a few more useful hints from it in a future number.

LOVE.

They picture, Love, in Indian tales,
An infant on a milk-white flower,
That down the sacred river sails
At evening's quiet hour;
There nestling in his pearly boat
For ever lies the power afloat;
And all his play is half asleep,
To break the waves with frolic finger,
Or hunt the twilight orbs that linger
Reflected on the soft blue deep.—*Burbidge.*

FASHIONS.

Our illustration represents a walking or visiting dress of shot silk or satin, the *biais* trimmed with black lace, and the epaulettes placed higher than heretofore, giving a graceful length to the arm. The cuffs are cut pointed, and trimmed with lace as well as the epaulettes and front of the *corsage*. The bonnet is of satin or velvet *épingle*, and the ostrich plume slightly tinted at the edges. A shawl completes the toilet, for *camails*, and furs are now daily cast aside, and nothing can so well replace them during this and the following month as the shawl. It is rumoured that many very pretty models will shortly appear of summer cardinals and mantillas. Spring dresses of *de laine* or chali will be generally trimmed with tulle, lace, flowers, or ribbons.



Feathers will be worn on fancy straws, of which the most elegant is the *Chapeau Celeste*, graceful in form and of more than gossamer lightness, being woven, we are informed, from the aloe leaf. Striped ribbons will be the most prevalent for plain straws.

An affecting instance of fine feeling, in a person of inferior grade in society, was mentioned in the course of the recent action for damages against the Directors of the Riverains Steam-boat Company on the Loire. At the moment of the explosion, a poor woman, named Chevalier, who had been to fetch a child, which was put out to her to nurse by a charitable establishment, displayed no alarm, except for the infant confined to her charge. She covered it with her clothes, and thus secured it from the action of the steam. The child was saved, but the woman herself was so much scalded that she died on the following morning.

SONG.

BY WETZEL.

When the roses blow,
Man looks out for brighter hours;
When the roses glow,
Hope relights her lampless bowers.
Much that seem'd in winter's gloom
Dark with heavy woe,
Wears a gladsome hue and bloom
When the roses blow —
When the roses blow —
Wears a gladsome hue and bloom
When the roses blow.

When the roses blow,
Love, that slept, shall wake anew;
Merrier blood shall flow
Through the springald's veins of blue;
And if sorrow wrung the heart,
Even that shall go;
Pain and mourning must depart
When the roses blow —
When the roses blow —
Pain and mourning must depart
When the roses blow.

When the roses blow,
Look to Heaven my fainting soul!
There, in stainless show,
Spreads the veil that shrouds thy goal,
Not while winter breathes his blight,
Burst thy bonds below!
Let the earth look proud and bright,
Let the roses blow!
Let the roses blow!
O, let the earth look proud and bright!
Let the roses blow!

WEBER.

Oberon having been revived at Covent Garden Theatre, a few particulars relating incidentally to this immortal work, and to the results which followed its representation, may prove somewhat interesting to our readers.

Having in the course of a few years composed a succession of operas which gained considerable applause at many of the theatres on the Continent, and having, moreover, taken the direction of the theatre at Carlsruhe, the opera at Prague, and a newly-established opera at Dresden, Weber (whose fame had now spread itself throughout England) accepted the task of composing an opera on the subject of *Oberon* for Covent Garden Theatre. At this period he was residing at Dresden, and was labouring under a constitutional malady which, for a time, incapacitated him from pursuing his avocations. He resolved, however, to exert himself in the composition of a work that was likely to increase his celebrity, and he therefore applied himself to the study of the English language, a knowledge of which he acquired with sufficient readiness to enable him, in the course of twelve months, to appreciate the dramatic verson of Wieland's fantastic but beautiful and touching comic epos. In December, 1824, Weber received the first act of Planche's manuscript, and forthwith commenced his laborious undertaking. He was, however, prevented by indisposition from fulfilling his engagement until December, 1825, when (after visiting a watering-place for the benefit of his health) he returned to his labours at *Oberon*, the completion of which the manager of Covent Garden Theatre was then awaiting with some anxiety.

The work having been finally brought to a close, Weber determined to be present at the representation of this, his last production. His wife and family were not enjoying that degree of prosperity to which they were honourably entitled, and he hoped by his visit to London to be enabled to raise them from poverty to comparative independence. "Want," says a periodical writer who has published a brief memoir of the life of this distinguished musician, "had, indeed, by unceasing exertion, been kept aloof, but still hovering near him, and threatening with the decline of his health and his consequent inability to discharge his duties, a nearer and a nearer approach. Already he felt the conviction that his death was not far off, and that his wife and children would soon be deprived of that support which his efforts had hitherto afforded them." It was under these melancholy circumstances that, early in 1826, he left Dresden for Paris, where he arrived on the 25th February. Having remained there a few days, he did not reach England until the 4th March, and on the 6th he wrote to his wife from London. The following letter may serve to prove that the mind of this extraordinary man enabled him to appreciate the good and the beautiful in nature, and to dwell upon objects which others would dismiss without even a passing notice: —

"God be thanked!" he says, "here I sit well and hearty, already quite at home, and perfectly happy in the receipt of your dear letter, which assures me that you and the children are well; what more or better could I wish for? After sleeping well and paying well at Dover, we set out yesterday morning in the Express coach, a noble carriage drawn by four English horses such as no prince need be ashamed of. With four persons within, four in front, and four behind, we dashed on with the rapidity of lightning through this inexpressibly beautiful country; meadows of the loveliest green, gardens blooming with flowers, and every building displaying a neatness and elegance which form a striking contrast to the dirt of France. The majestic river, covered with ships of all sizes (among others the largest ship of the line, of 148 guns), the graceful country-houses, altogether made the journey perfectly unique."

He took up his residence at the house of Sir George Smart, where every thing that could soothe his illness — in any way add to his comforts had been already provided for him. With reference to the production of the opera which had caused him to leave his own country, he thus writes to his wife: —

"Give yourself no uneasiness about the opera. I shall have leisure and repose here, for they respect my time. [He had formerly been induced by his arduous and multiplied duties to exclaim 'Would to God that I were a tailor, for then I should have a Sunday's holiday!'] Besides, the *Oberon* is not fixed for Easter Monday, but some time later; I shall tell you afterwards when. The people are really too kind to me. No king ever had more done to him out of love; I may almost say they carry me in their arms. I take great care of myself, and you may be quite at ease on my account. My cough is really a very odd one. For eight days it disappeared entirely; then upon the 3d (of March) a vile spasmodic attack returned before I reached Calais. Since that time it is quiet again. I cannot, with all the consideration I have given it, understand it at all. I sometimes deny myself every indulgence, and yet it comes. I eat and drink every thing, and it does not come. But be it as God will.

"At seven o'clock in the evening we went to Covent Garden, where *Rob Roy*, an opera after Sir Walter Scott's novel, was played. The house is handsomely decorated, and not too large. When I came forward to the front of the stage-box that I

might have a better look of it, some one called out, 'Weber! Weber is here!" And although I drew back immediately, there followed a clamour of applause which I thought would never have ended. Then the overture to the *Freyschutz* was called for, and every time I showed myself the storm broke loose again. Fortunately, soon after the overture, *Rob Roy* began, and gradually things became quiet. Could a man wish for more enthusiasm or more love? I must confess that I was completely overpowered by it, though I am of a calm nature, and somewhat accustomed to such scenes. I know not what I would have given to have had you by my side, that you might have seen me in my foreign garb of honour. And now, my dear love, I can assure you that you may be quite at ease both as to the singers and the orchestra. Miss Paton is a singer of the first rank, and will play *Reizet* divinely. Braham not less so, though in a totally different style. There are also several good tenors; and I really cannot see why the English singing should be so much abused. The singers have a perfectly good Italian education, fine voices and expression. The orchestra is not remarkable, but still very good, and the choruses particularly so. In short, I feel quite at ease as to the fate of *Oberon*."

Notwithstanding these sanguine expectations as to the production of the opera, Weber had many difficulties to contend with before the critical period arrived. The singers begged him to make certain alterations in the different parts allotted to them; and poor Weber, in order to conciliate them, was obliged to submit to their caprices, and to superintend a greater number of rehearsals than he had anticipated.

In another of his confidential letters to his wife (dated 29th of March, 1826), he says, — "Braham begs for a grand scena instead of his first air, which, in fact, was not written for him, and is rather high. The thought of it was at first quite horrible; I could not hear of it. At last I promised, when the opera was completed, if I had time enough, it should be done; and now this grand scena, a confounded battle piece and what not, is laying before me, and I am about to set to work, yet with the greatest reluctance. What can I do? Braham knows his public, and is idolized by them. But for Germany I shall keep the opera as it is. I hate the air I am going to compose (to day I hope) by anticipation. Adieu; and now for the battle. . . . . So the battle is over, that is to say, half the scene. To-morrow shall the Turks roar, the French shout for joy, and the warriors cry out victory!"

On the 12th of April, 1826, the long promised and much desired opera was produced; and on the same evening Weber wrote to his wife, recording "with a mixture of humility, gratitude, affection, and piety," the triumphant success which attended the first representation. It is gratifying to find from the following letter, that this achievement tended to compensate him for all his toils, vexations, and disappointments, and that he knew the value of such a reward; but it is painful to reflect that he was not destined long to enjoy his triumph, nor to communicate by word of mouth the pleasing intelligence to his beloved wife. The letter was in these words:—

"My best beloved Caroline, — Through God's grace and assistance I have this evening met with the most complete success. The brilliancy and affecting nature of the triumph is indescribable. God alone be thanked for it! When I entered the orchestra, the whole of the house, which was filled to overflowing, rose up, and I was saluted by huzzas, waving of hats and handkerchiefs, which I thought would never have done. They insisted on encoring the overture. Every air was interrupted twice or thrice by bursts of applause. . . . . So much for this night, dear life. From your heartily tired husband, who however could not sleep in peace until he had communicated to you this new blessing of heaven. Good night."

His joy was interrupted by the decline of his health; and after directing twelve performances of his opera, he saw the necessity for returning to his native country before the time he intended to remain in England had expired. The next letters which he addressed to his wife were written in a tone of despondency, leading to the belief that he anticipated the melancholy fate which awaited him. In a brief letter, dated 17th of April, 1826, after explaining that the climate of London was most injurious to his health, he says, — "I have formed an acquaintance with Dr. Kind, a nephew of our own Kind. He is determined to make me well. God help me, that will never happen to me in this life. I have lost all hope in physicians and their art. Repose is my best doctor, and henceforth it shall be my sole object to obtain it. . . . . To-morrow is the first representation of my (so called) rival's opera, *Aladdin*. I am very curious to see it. Bishop is a man of talent, though of no peculiar invention. I wish him every success. There is room enough for all of us in the world."

Previous to his departure from England he wrote two more letters to his wife, one dated 30th of May, 1826, and the other (which was the 33d, he had written during his stay in London) 2d of June in the same year. In the former he writes in the following touching and affectionate terms.

"Dearest Lina,— Excuse the shortness and hurry of this; I have so many things on hand, writing is painful to me, my hands tremble so. Already, too, impatience begins to awaken in me. You will not receive many more letters from me. Address your answer not to London but to Frankfort, *poste restante*. You are surprised? Yes, I don't go by Paris. What should I do there? I cannot move; I cannot speak; all business I must give up for years. Then better, better, the straight way to my home, by Calais, Brussels, Cologne, and Coblentz, up the Rhine to Frankfort — a delightful journey. Though I must travel slowly, rest sometimes half a day, I think in a fortnight, by the end of June, I shall be in your arms. If God will, we shall leave this on the 12th June, if heaven will only vouchsafe me a little strength. Well, all will go better if we are once on the way; once out of this wretched climate. I embrace you from my heart, my dear ones, ever, your loving father, Charles.

On the 16th June he was to be present at the representation of *Der Freyschutz*, which was to be performed for his benefit, and afterwards to leave London for ever. But a fortnight previous he felt so ill that he was obliged to keep his room; and the idea of his attending at this performance was abandoned. On Sunday evening the 5th he was left in good spirits, and at 7 o'clock the next morning he was found dead upon his pillow. On the 21st of June he was interred at the Catholic chapel in Moorfields, the Requiem of Mozart being introduced into the burial service.

Such were the circumstances under which Weber visited England, and such the melancholy events attendant upon the production of one of the greatest works which music has ever called forth in this or any other country.

An Italian painter, Leechi, who is said to have discovered the art of colouring Daguerréotypes, has just arrived in Brussels with the intention of copying the pictures of Rubens, Vandyck, &c.

Travel. — All travel has its advantages. If the passenger visits better countries, he may learn to improve his own; and if fortune carries him to worse, he may learn to enjoy it. — *Johnson's Tour to the Hebrides.*

THEATRES.

Adelphi. — A great change has taken place at this house within the last few years. Time was, when the bill of fare generally promised a healthful and desirable treat; and if the guests were not satisfied with the viands, the host seldom failed to make amends for the disappointment on a future occasion. The entertainments provided for the visitors were of a class peculiar to this place of resort; and if they chanced to prove unattractive, there was one consolation to the purveyor and his helpmates, that it was impossible for their patrons to find the same kind of luxuries elsewhere. Now, however, circumstances have taken a very different complexion. Pieces suggested by the most degrading and common-place occurrences of every-day life are now brought forward in rapid succession; and a drama at the Adelphi and a drama at Sadler's Wells or the City of London are almost synonymous. In proof of this we have only to instance "a new and original burletta, called the Love-gift, or the Trials of Poverty," which was represented for the first time on Monday last. It is written by Mr. Edward Stirling, the author or rather adapter of many other pieces of a similar description. In order, perhaps, to convince the play-going world that, as a dramatist, he is not incapable of "pointing a moral," he has quoted in the bills the following passage from some work which we cannot at present bring to our recollection; — "The noblest dowry which a woman can possess is that purity of life and innocence of heart which, in the hour of trial, *rises* superior to all the temptations that rank and affluence can display." Why Mr. Stirling has brought to light this profound piece of sentiment we cannot imagine; the more especially as he has based the drama in question, not upon any wise principles of philosophy, but upon the adventures of a miniature (the "love-gift") which the heroine is compelled by misfortune to pawn, and which the hero is induced by accident to redeem. The principal characters consist of *Jack Walters* (a roue of the East-end), *Frank Duncan* (first officer of an Indiaman), *Slippery Mike* (a long-shore sneak), and *Mary Campbell* (an orphan). *Duncan* is betrothed to Miss Campbell; and whilst he is cruizing abroad, *Walters* endeavours to seduce the girl of his heart under the promise that he will expend all his wealth in making her a happy — woman! The girl is reduced to poverty by the recent loss of her mother, but nevertheless she indignantly spurns the offer of the *roue;* and, in order to procure the necessary means of subsistence, pledges the miniature of her absent lover, who, upon his return home (in the beginning of the second act), takes an opportunity of redeeming it. Maddened by this conclusive evidence of the faithlessness of his beloved *Mary*, the sailor hastens to a public-house, with the wise intention of drinking deeply of despair and punch *à la* rum and brandy, when he chances to hear one of the tap-room orators make certain remarks detrimental to the spotless reputation of poor *Mary Campbell*. A pugilistic encounter is the result, and the slanderer is laid prostrate on the saw-dust. The victorious *Frank Duncan* subsequently meets his affianced bride, and all misunderstandings being cleared up, the piece is brought to a conclusion without the customary adjuncts of a tragical death or a display of blue fire. The gentleman who rejoices in the name of *Slippery Mike* is another edition of the "Artful Dodger," and is occupied during the performance in committing the same kind of atrocities for which that dignified personage was distinguished, viz. in picking pockets, abstracting embroidered slippers from ladies' hand-baskets, and in selling to a party of ingenuous seamen a quantity of oranges which he knows to be rotten! Such are the characters and such the incidents which the audience were compelled to witness on Monday evening; and we have dwelt thus long on the subject for the purpose of showing that there is no difficulty in accounting for the "decline of the drama." If the doings at pawnbrokers' shops, pot-house disturbances, and the dexterity of pickpockets are to be tolerated on the stage, a parent who wishes to bring up his children in the way they should *not* go, had better take them at once to a minor theatre, where they may learn how to commit the greatest enormities, and how to avoid punishment. This is a system which wants reforming altogether, and therefore we regretted to find that the *Love-gift, or the Trials of Poverty*, did not meet with utter condemnation.

Princess's. — The revival at this theatre of *I Puritani*, in an English form, has been attended with a degree of success proportionate to that which marked the original production. There is of course a vast difference between the present and the former representatives of the principal characters; but nevertheless the performance is in every respect most praiseworthy. Messrs. Templeton, Burdini, and Weiss have been substituted for Rubini, Tamburini, and Lablache; whilst Madame Eugenia Garcia, in the part of *Elvira*, has undertaken the difficult task originally assigned to Grisi. The opinions respecting Madame Garcia appear to be divided; but at the same time, it has been admitted on all hands that, although she is not sufficiently gifted to distinguish herself in an eminent degree, she is possessed of considerable talent. Her voice is very clear and expressive, and her singing is marked by a degree of energy which is always calculated to produce a favourable impression. In the more pathetic scenes of the opera, and especially in the second act, when her reason is wandering, she displayed a depth of feeling and intensity of purpose which for a time reminded us of the heart-thrilling tones of poor Malibran. The audience seemed fully to appreciate her exertions, and in the course of the performance demanded, by their applause, several encores. In the air commencing "It was here in accents sweetest," she was fervently applauded; and in the touching melody, "Dearest come, the moon is beaming," (which concludes the scene between *Elvira*, *Sir George*, and *Sir Richard*, in the second act,) she expressed, with so much earnestness, the warmth of passion conveyed by the music, that the auditors compelled her to repeat it. At the fall of the curtain Madame Garcia was called for to receive the usual congratulations, which on this occasion were bestowed by the audience without the unnecessary addition of garlands, or *bouquets*. Upon the merits of the singers by whom Madame Garcia was supported we have little to say. Templeton laboured under the manifest disadvantage of a cold, and therefore the effect of his portion of the music was seriously marred. He is, however, incapable of doing justice to the grand compositions of the Italian masters; and notwithstanding he is better qualified to appreciate Bellini than any of his cotemporaries, the character of *Lord Arthur Talbot* is beyond the compass of his physical or musical abilities. We doubt much whether M. Weiss, who played *Sir George*, will ever attain to a high position as an operatic performer. M. Burdini possesses an excellent voice, but in his execution of the music allotted to him, he exhibits a degree of roughness which ought to be avoided. The opera was put upon the stage in a very creditable manner, and the adapter of the *libretto* is deserving of the greatest praise, considering the acknowledged difficulty of his task, in "conveying the meaning of the Italian original, and in preserving throughout the feeling of the words to which Bellini's music was composed."

Saint James's. — This theatre flourishes under purely aristocratic patronage. Dukes and duchesses, marquises and earls crowd the boxes and dignify the stalls. The one favourite of the season — not that the company lacks talent, and that too of a high order — is Mdlle. Plessy, whose portrait we here present to the reader.

MDLLE. PLESSY.

Mdlle. Plessy is essentially *the* lady actress. She combines the most natural grace with all the acquired elegance of high breeding. Her bearing, her walk, her gestures, all declare the lady in the simplest and the highest sense of the word. She has been greatly successful in the *Portrait Vivant*, but her *Mdlle. de Belleisle*, in the drama of that name by Dumas, appears to be her favourite effort with the patrons of this House. We do not like the piece; nor do we think, if it were faithfully "done into English," it would succeed at Drury Lane. It is, in fact, a drama of mere intrigue, in which *Mdlle. de Belleisle* is ever and anon about to fall the victim of the many ingenious snares laid for her, but "as a dove from the fowler" she escapes, and escapes, — every liberation from the peril being brought about by increasing energy opposed to increasing difficulties, until at length the curtain falls upon her assured innocence. The acting of Mdlle. Plessy is throughout charming, dignified, delicate, womanly, and beautiful. There are a few of our English actresses who might study her to great advantage.

ECHOES OF THE GREEN ROOM.

There has been of late the same dearth of news in theatrical circles as in the papers. Various novelties are said to be forthcoming at Covent Garden and Drury Lane theatres, but we find that no alterations have been made in the announcements since the past week, excepting that the different *nouveautés*, &c. have risen within the last few days from the bottom of the bills to the centre; a proof that the anxiety of the play-going world is shortly to be dispelled. Miss Clara Novello has arrived in London, and M. Duprez is daily expected to follow her. Mrs. Alfred Shaw is, we perceive, about to change her quarters, and the company at Drury Lane are to have the benefit of her services. Madame Eugenia Garcia is engaged at Covent Garden, to form the same attraction which is now afforded by the appearance of Mrs. Shaw, whilst Miss Sara Flower (who made her *debut* at Drury Lane a short time ago) is about to fill the position at present occupied by Madame Garcia. The production of Knowles's new play will, it is to be hoped, compensate for the monotony occasioned by the rapid succession of operatic performances. The piece appears to be well cast, and report (which, by the by, does not always tell the truth) speaks favourably of its qualities.

It is rumoured upon very good authority that Mr. Bell, the author of *Marriage*, has commenced an action against Mr. Bunn to recover a sum of money, which he claims on the ground that the comedy was successful, and that it was announced for repetition on the morning after its production. Mr. Bunn, however, thought proper to prevent its being performed a second time, albeit the play received the approbation of the public despite the manifest disadvantages under which it was produced. Under such circumstances we have to express a hope, in common with others, that Mr. Bell will obtain that just and necessary protection which the law ought to afford to all members of the Dramatic Authors' Society.

Mr. Maywood, having installed his daughter as manager of one of the theatres in the United States, has lately returned to London with the intention of opening the Strand Theatre, under auspices which give promise of a favourable result.

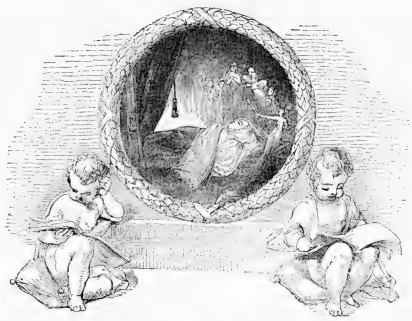
Rossini's opera of *Tancredi* is announced for representation at the Princess's Theatre. Miss Flower will make her appearance in one of the principal characters.

The management of the Lyceum Theatre has changed hands, Mr. Sands, the equestrian, having succeeded to Mr. Van Amburgh. Owing to the removal of *the lions* from the theatre the prices of admission have been reduced, and a dramatic representation substituted for the "scenes in the den."

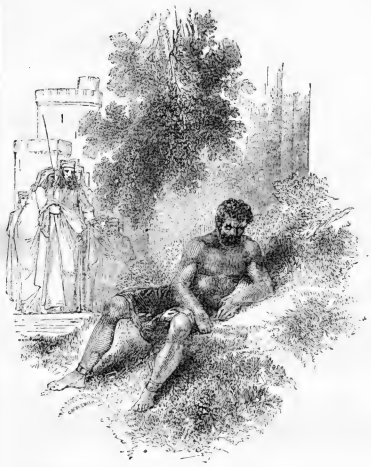
LITERATURE.

The Poetical Works of John Milton, with Critical Remarks on his Genius and Writings. By James Montgomery. Illustrated with Designs by William Harvey. 2 vols. 8vo. London: Tilt & Bogue.

A new edition of Milton, when presented to the public in a pictorial form, necessarily arrests attention. But when strengthened by so established and venerable a name in English literature as James Montgomery, we are induced to regard the work with peculiar interest. The author of "the World before the Flood" has executed his task in a manner worthy of his talents and of the immortal memory to which he has devoted them. It is not our intention to enter into the poetical character of Milton, whose undying verse has thrilled — and will thrill — through the hearts of all who are susceptible of the poetical and the sublime, so long as our language, by its severe simplicity, strengthens the very energy of truth, and showers graces around the brilliancy and beauty of human thought and feeling. We therefore leave "the blind man eloquent" to his imperishable fame. With reference to this edition of his works we may observe, that one more perfect has never yet been offered, whether in the carefulness of the text and acuteness of the comments (for which the public, ourselves among them, are indebted to Mr. Montgomery), or to the artistic grace in which that text is enshrined.



The illustrations, forming as they do a very beautiful addition to the volume, necessarily demand our attention. They are from the pencil of Mr. Harvey, whose name is justly held in high respect by all who are familiar with the labours of the two score years he has devoted in cementing the union between art and literature. Much as we admired his graceful illustrations to Lane's edition of the "Arabian Nights," we feel pleased in confessing that his treatment of the very difficult task assigned to him in the present instance, has even exceeded our hopes. There is no subject in our literature that affords such ample scope for the display of an artist's powers, neither is there one in which the incapacity of grasping it is likely to be more apparent. It involves a just conception, and requires an accurate delineation of unparalleled extremes; of the glories of heaven and of the meanest things of earth. Many of Mr. Harvey's pictorial renderings of difficult passages are masterly, and there is generally throughout the volumes more repose in his figures than we have hitherto met. He excels mostly, however, in the graceful and delicate treatment of the lighter carollings of the bard; witness Comus and the epigrammatic fancies of L'Allegro and Il Penseroso. To the illustrations we have selected, we append a part of the poem of L'Allegro, to show how tastefully they express the redundancy of the subject. A reference to the work will show that it merits the eulogy we have bestowed on it.



Haste thee, nymph, and bring with thee
Jest, and youthful Jollity,
Quips, and cranks, and wanton wiles,
Nods, and becks, and wreathed smiles,
Such as hang on Hebe's cheek,
And love to live in dimple sleek;
Sport that wrinkled Care derides,
And Laughter holding both his sides.
Come, and trip it, as you go,
On the light fantastic toe;
And in thy right hand lead with thee
The mountain nymph, sweet Liberty;
And, if I give thee honour due,
Mirth, admit me of thy crew,
To live with her, and live with thee,
In unreproved pleasures free;
To hear the lark begin his flight,
And, singing, startle the dull night,
From his watch-tower in the skies,
Till the dappled dawn doth rise;
Then to come, in spite of sorrow,
And at my window bid good-morrow,
Through the sweet-brier or the vine,
Or the twisted eglantine:
While the cock, with lively din,
Scatters the rear of darkness thin,
And to the stack, or the barn-door,
Stoutly struts his dames before:
Oft listening how the hounds and horn
Cheerly rouse the slumbering morn,
From the side of some hoar hill,
Through the high wood echoing shrill;
Some time walking, not unseen,
By hedgerow elms, on hillocks green,
Right against the eastern gate
Where the great sun begins his state,
Robed in flames, and amber light,
The clouds in thousand liveries dight;
While the ploughman, near at hand,
Whistles o'er the furrow'd land,
And the milk-maid singeth blythe,
And the mower whets his scythe,
And every shepherd tells his tale,
Under the hawthorn in the dale.
Straight mine eye hath caught new pleasures
Whilst the landscape round it measures;

Russet lawns and fallows grey,
Where the nibbling flocks do stray;
Mountains, on whose barren breast
The labouring clouds do often rest;
Meadows trim, with daisies pied,
Shallow brooks, and rivers wide;
Towers and battlements it sees
Bosom'd high in tufted trees,
Where, perhaps, some beauty lies,
The cynosure of neighbouring eyes.
Hard by, a cottage chimney smokes
From betwixt two aged oaks,
Where Corydon and Thyrsis met,
Are at their savoury dinner set
Of herbs, and other country messes,
Which the neat-handed Phillis dresses;
And then in haste her bower she leaves,
With Thestylis to bind the sheaves;
Or, if the earlier season lead,
To the tann'd haycock in the mead.
Sometimes, with secure delight,
The upland hamlets will invite,
When the merry bells ring round,
And the jocund rebecks sound
To many a youth and many a maid
Dancing in the checker'd shade;
And young and old come forth to play
On a sunshine holiday,
Till the live-long daylight fail;
Then to the spicy nut-brown ale,
With stories told of many a feat,
How fairy Mab the junkets eat;
She was pinched and pull'd, she said;
And he, by friar's lantern led,
Tells how the drudging goblin sweat
To earn his cream-bowl duly set,
When, in one night, ere glimpse of morn,
His shadowy flail hath thresh'd the corn,
That ten day-labourers could not end;
Then lies him down, the lubber fiend,
And, stretch'd out all the chimney's length,
Basks at the fire his hairy strength;
And, crop-full, out of doors he flings,
Ere the first cock his matin rings.
Thus done the tales, to bed they creep,
By whispering winds soon lull'd asleep.

SABRINA RISES, ATTENDED BY WATER-NYMPHS, AND SINGS.

By the rushy-fringed bank,
Where grow the willow and the osier dank,
My sliding chariot stays,
Thick set with agate, and the azure sheen
Of Turkish blue, and emerald green,
That in the channel strays;
Whilst from off the waters fleet
Thus I set my printless feet
O'er the cowslip's velvet head,
That bends not as I tread;
Gentle swain, at thy request,
I am here.

The Military Operations at Cabul, &c. By Lieut. Vincent Eyre.

Journal of Imprisonment in Affghanistan. By Lieut. Vincent Eyre. London: Murray.

This is in every respect a remarkable work. Looking at the magnitude of the interests involved in the war so rashly commenced and so doubtfully concluded — at the calamitous imprisonment to which the English captives were all but hopelessly consigned — looking at this, we must say that no more remarkable volume of contemporaneous history has been added to our literature.

As to our disasters in the East, and the recovery of our lost ground, not a word need be said in this journal, after the searching investigation which the question has undergone in Parliament, and in the press. Still it must ever be gratifying to the English reader to be reminded of the heroism manifested by our gallant countrymen and countrywomen in captivity — heroism which they had no cause to think would be recognised far less rewarded — heroism, in short, finding its recompence in its vivifying source, the undaunted heart of British courage and endurance.

Lieut. Eyre has, with soldier-like simplicity, softened the details of a melancholy story. We shall quote an instance or two of this, but will first avail ourselves of a passage which gives a graphic view of the true cause of disaster, namely, incapacity in high quarters. The passage is quoted by Lieut. Eyre from the "Bombay Times:" —

When a soldier finds that his every movement is directed by a master mind; that, when he is apparently thrust into the greatest danger, he finds, in truth, his greatest security; that his march to engage an apparently superior force is not a wild sacrifice, but the result of a well calculated plan; when he knows that, however appearances may be, he is sure to come off with honour, for his brethren in arms are already in progress to assist him, and will not fail to be forthcoming at the hour appointed; when he sees that there is a watchful eye over him, providing for all his wants, assisting him to overcome all his difficulties, and enabling him to reap the fruit of all his successes; when he finds that even retreat is but a preparation for victory, and, as if guided by Providence, all his movements, though to him incomprehensible, are sure to prove steps to some great end, — when the soldier finds this, he rises and lies down in security, and there is no danger which he will not brave. But when, in every thing they undertake, they find the reverse of the picture I have drawn; when they are marched, as they imagine, to glory, but find it is only to slaughter; when even victory brings no fruit, and retreat they discover to be flight; when the support they hope for comes not, and they find their labours to be without end or purpose; when the provisions they look for daily are issued to them no more, and they see all their efforts paralysed; when an army of thousands finds itself delivered, bound hand and foot, into the hands of a man without system, foresight, or military knowledge enough for a sergeant of police, the stoutest heart will fail, the bravest sink; for the soldier knows that, do what he will, his efforts can only end in ruin and dishonour.

We will not renew in the minds of our readers the painful recollections consequent on past impolicy. More gratifying to them and to ourselves will it be to copy the following account of Sir R. Shakespear's enviable office, as liberator of the "brave and fair."

Sept. 17th. — Recrossing the Kaloo mountain, we encamped near a fort about three miles from its base, where we had rested only a couple of hours, when a body of horse were descried descending into the valley down the distant pass of Hajeejuk. In an instant all were on the alert, straining our eyes to catch a glimpse of (as we fondly believed) our expected liberators; nor were our hopes disappointed.

The nearer approach of the party, as they crossed the valley, enabled us to recognise the friendly banner of the Kuzzilbash streaming in the air. Saleh Mahomed had by this time formed up his men in martial array, ready to receive friend or foe, as the case might be. A few minutes more of eager suspense elapsed, when Sir Richmond Shakespear, galloping up to where we stood, bade us rejoice at our accomplished delivery, and dissipated every doubt.

At length we felt the blessed assurance of freedom; the heavy burden which had oppressed our hearts for nine tedious months was removed; and from that moment we were altered beings. Our gallant countryman was greeted on our side with no boisterous cheers of triumph, for all seemed alike conscious that the utterance of such sounds would but inaptly express the deep feelings of gratitude that agitated our inmost hearts. Our joy was too great, too over whelming, for the tongue to utter, as it is for my feeble pen to describe. That we should have escaped unhurt, with so many delicate women, young children, and tender infants, through such numerous perils, fatigues, and privations, and, above all, from the hands of such merciless enemies as Akbar Khan and his Giljye confederates, seemed at first too much for the senses to realize; nor could even the most thoughtless among us fail to recognize and acknowledge, in all that had befallen us, the distinguishing grace and protecting providence of a forbearing and merciful God. We now for the first time learned that Gen. Pollock had reached Cabul on the 15th instant, when one of his first acts had been to hasten the departure of the Kuzzilbashes to our aid, by a donation of 10,000 rupees. To pay this sum, Sir R. Shakespear had been despatched to the *Chaudoul*, the Kuzzilbash quarter of Cabul, where finding a party in readiness to start for Bameean, and rightly judging that the presence among them of an English officer would quicken their energies and accelerate the completion of their designs, he forthwith determined to act on his own responsibility; and exchanging his English uniform for a respectable Affghan costume, he joined them in quest of his captive countrymen. Saleh Mahommed Khan, although at first somewhat jealous that the Kuzzilbashes should have deprived him of the sole credit of our release, was speedily reassured by the lavish praises of Sir Richmond, who, as a mark of the highest honour that a superior can pay to an inferior, lifted the turban from off his own head, and placed it on that of the Affghan.

To complete this picture we will only give the acknowledgment of the liberated prisoners. It requires no comment.

LETTER FROM THE RELEASED PRISONERS TO SIR RICHMOND SHAKESPEAR.

Dear Sir,— Rescued as we have so lately been from a state of prolonged and cheerless captivity, which threatened soon to terminate in hopeless slavery, in a land where the laws of humanity are unknown or unacknowledged; restored by a wonderful interposition of Providence to country, friends, and all that renders life desirable; it would ill become us, in the midst of our rejoicings, to forget those friends, through whose agency this happy change in our prospects has been effected.

To you we are bound to express our heartfelt thanks, for the promptitude with which you led a body of Kuzzilbash horsemen to our assistance at a most critical period, to whose timely arrival amongst us at Kaloo it may be chiefly attributed that our flight from Bameean was not intercepted.

To thank you adequately in words for so signal a service would be impossible, but we trust you will accept of this, as a token of the gratitude we feel, and with every good wish for your happiness and prosperity, we subscribe ourselves, yours very faithfully.

[The signatures of the prisoners then follow.]

Cabul, Sept. 24. 1842.

Sir Richmond Shakespear's answer to this compliment is couched as that of a gentleman and soldier should be.

The continuation of the diary consists chiefly of the march from Cabul, and a full appendix to the earlier volume.

ENTRÉE IN CABOOL.

THE COMET.

Between the comet and a great M. P.
A very strong similitude to see,
Sure none can fail.
By those who watch the comet 'twill be found
A vaporous body moving round and round
With a long tail!

THE LORDS AT LOGGERHEADS.

Said Campbell, "how oft have you spoken to-night?"
The question seem'd Brougham a little to bother;
Who put it to Campbell himself: both were right;
'Twas of one half-a-dozen and six of the other.

AMERICAN PROSPERITY.

By the latest arrivals from America, we find that in one of the New York papers there is a list of 700 bankrupts, occupying in all six columns of the journal. The Americans sometimes talk of paying off old scores, but it would be as well if they thought a little more about settling those of more recent origin. Six columns of bankrupts! Such columns may not inaptly be described as nearly all base, and no capital.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Critical and Historical Essays. By the Right Hon. Thomas Babington Macaulay. 3 vols.
Spring Flowers. By T. W. Newton.
The Sporting Review. Nos. 49, 50, and 51.
The London Review. No. I.
Interment and Disinterment: a further Exposition of the Practices pursued in the Metropolitan Places of Sepulture. By G. A. Walker.
National Distress: its Causes and Remedies.
Animal Magnetism. By Edwin Lee.
Repeal of the Colonial Produce Duties. &c. &c.
The Prints of the National Art Union (Ancient and Modern Italy, after Turner; and the Latice and the Mantilla after Edwin Landseer).

FINE ARTS.

THE WILKIE STATUE.

It will be remembered that shortly after the decease of Sir David Wilkie a meeting was called for the purpose of paying a national tribute of respect to his talents. Sir Robert Peel took an active part in the affair, and a large sum of money was collected. The committee decided upon a statue being executed, to be placed in the National Gallery, which was entrusted to Mr. Weekes, a sculptor of great promise, whose design we feel a pleasure in presenting to our readers.

PROSPECTIVE ADVANTAGES.

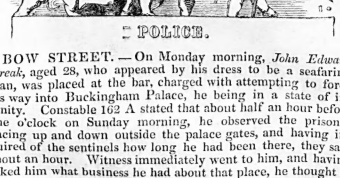
At a recent meeting of the proprietors of the Thames Tunnel, it was announced that there was a tunnel in Rome which had lasted 4000 years; and that if the one under the Thames only lasts as long, the shareholders will have nothing to complain of. There is nothing like looking forward with confidence to the future, and we congratulate the shareholders on the prospect of dividends in the year 5843, when we have no doubt the Tunnel will be a very fine property. Patience is a virtue, which, if experience is of any use, the proprietors of the Tunnel must, by this time, be well able to exercise.

ON THE INCREASE OF ILLICIT DISTILLATION IN IRELAND SINCE THE LAYING ON OF AN ADDITIONAL DUTY.

Of Nelson's words when at the Nile,
The natives of the Emerald Isle
Perceive the beauty,—
Ireland "expects that every man
(On all occasions when he can)
Should *do* the duty."

ASSIZE INTELLIGENCE.

DERBY. — MURDER. — *Samuel Bonsall, William Bland,* and *John Holme*, were indicted for having, on the 30th of Sept., at Stanley, murdered Martha Goddard. This case excited intense interest, and from an early hour in the morning hundreds were assembled round the court-house doors in the hope of getting in. The case occupied some time, but the facts are reducible into a comparatively small compass. The deceased, who was about seventy years of age, lived with a sister, in a house known as Stanley Hall, and were generally considered, and in fact were, persons of very eccentric habits. They were the daughters of a clergyman, were possessed of a very fair property, and were descended from a family of some antiquity. These two old ladies inhabited Stanley Hall alone, having no domestics of any kind, and it was no doubt the knowledge of this fact that provoked the robbery and murder which were committed. The sisters slept in separate rooms, and it was one of the singularities for which they were noted, that they took their meals apart, and seldom or ever held communication with each other. From the evidence, it appeared that, on the morning of the 30th of Sept., Sarah Goddard went to the house of a man named Scattergood and called him, whereupon he proceeded to their residence, and found the sister suffering from severe injuries she had received about the head. She was lying on her bed in her night-dress covered completely with blood. There was a coal-shed attached to the house, and Scattergood observed a hole in the roof large enough to admit a man, and a ladder outside. It was only three weeks before that the house in question had been broken into and robbed. It appeared that on the night of the murder one Joseph Rowe, a farmer, was on the road between Stanley and Heage, in which latter village the prisoners lived, when he met the prisoners about three miles from Stanley, each having a bundle on his back. Rowe, thinking they had been poaching, asked if they had a cock in the bag. In reply to something Bonsall said, he told him he thought there was something in the bags that ought not to be; whereupon Bonsall said, "Let's kill him." Rowe said, "Come on." They went towards him, but Bland said, "No, we have done enough to-night," and they then went away. Other witnesses were called, who proved the case clearly against all three prisoners. All the parties had made confessions implicating each other. Bland stated he was a participator in the robbery, but was innocent of the murder; that Holme got in by taking the slates off the coal-house. The surviving sister came to the door with a poker, but she was knocked down. They drew her up stairs; broke open the room where her sister was. Heard her scream and call out "Sally." Holme struck her about the head with a crow-bar. Holme and Bonsall killed her. They told him they found only 19*s.* 6*d.*, and gave him 6*s.* 6*d.* of it. They then left, and soon after met a man in the lane, whom they thought of murdering. It appeared further that Bonsall, while in gaol, had told a man named Salt, who was in custody for disobeying an affiliation order, that Holme committed the murder, but that he, Bonsall, went in to see how he was getting on, when he found deceased standing in the middle of the room in her night dress, folding her hands, and exclaiming, "Man, man, what a man you are; I have given you my money; tell me what else you want, and I will give it you; but spare my life." Holmes said, "You old wretch, I want some of your 5*l.* notes;" and knocked her down with the iron crow-bar. Another prisoner, however, proved that Bonsall admitted that all three struck the poor old lady. Holme, in his confession, stated Bonsall committed the murder; that he first took out a knife to cut her throat, but afterwards knocked her brains out with the crowbar. All the prisoners were found Guilty, and his Lordship immediately sentenced the three to be executed, holding out no hopes of mercy.



POLICE.

BOW STREET. — On Monday morning, *John Edward Freak*, aged 28, who appeared by his dress to be a seafaring man, was placed at the bar, charged with attempting to force his way into Buckingham Palace, he being in a state of insanity. Constable 162 A stated that about half an hour before one o'clock on Sunday morning, he observed the prisoner pacing up and down outside the palace gates, and having inquired of the sentinels how long he had been there, they said about an hour. Witness immediately went to him, and having asked him what business he had about that place, he thought at first, by his manner and the answers he gave, that he was intoxicated, but after a little delay, having used threatening and incoherent expressions, saying he had been robbed, and should be allowed inside the gates, he took him into custody, and conveyed him to the station-house, when a quantity of papers, a pocket-book, and other small articles, but no money, were found upon him. Mr. Hall (to the prisoner): What is your name? Prisoner (sulkily): My name! Why, my name is John Edward Freak. Mr. Hall: What part of the country do you come from? Prisoner: What part of the country! Why, from Dunbar, in Scotland, to be sure. Mr. Hall: Is it a week or a month since you left Scotland? Prisoner: No consequence about that. You can look at my papers if you wish. Mr. Hall: What is your occupation? Prisoner: What occupation! Why, I'm a sailor. Mr. Hall: What's the name of your vessel? Prisoner: The name of the vessel is put on the papers. It's the Scotia. Mr. Hall: What port do you trade to? Prisoner: You can see by the papers 'tis to France. Don't you see my passport? Mr. Hall: Are you a common seaman or a captain? Prisoner: You can see by my papers. Mr. Hall: Are you a part proprietor of the vessel? Prisoner: Perhaps I am. Mr. Hall: Is there any person to whom you can refer? Prisoner: Why do you ask such a question? Have you not my papers in your hands? Mr. Hall: Where is your vessel at present? Prisoner: Don't you see by the papers 'tis at Folkstone, in Kent. Mr. Hall: What part of Scotland do you come from? Prisoner: What part! Why, from Dunbar, in East Lothian. Mr. Hall: Can you give me the name of any of your relations? Prisoner: Why here (pointing to himself). All my relations are in myself; you'll see by my papers that such is the case. Mr. Hall then ordered the prisoner to be put back until a messenger could be sent for Mr. Wakefield, of Clerkenwell, and Mr. Lavies, of Tothillfields Prison, to attend and give their opinion respecting the state of the prisoner's mind. Prisoner: Aye, put me back again, if you wish; but take care you put my papers back in their proper places. He was then removed from the bar. In the course of the day the medical gentlemen came into court, and after a consultation with Mr. Hall, the prisoner was introduced to them in a private room, where they remained in conference about half an hour. On making a report of their inquiries into the prisoner's state of mind, they stated they could not, in so short a time, come to a final conclusion, and recommended the prisoner should be placed in a secure situation for a few days, where they might at intervals observe his conduct, and hold conversations with him. Mr. Hall directed the master of St. Martin's workhouse to take charge of the prisoner, after having explained the nature of the charge. Mr. Hurmahy also received directions to write to the prisoner's friends, requesting their attendance as soon as the medical gentlemen were of opinion he was in a fit state of mind to undergo a final examination.

WORSHIP STREET. — *William Alexander Grist*, aged 20, a very good-looking young man, in naval undress, was placed at the bar, charged with stealing a quantity of plate from the house of Lady Playter, in Graham's Place, Dalston, and a horse from Mr. Croft, a livery-stable keeper in Whitechapel. Mr. Watson, surgeon, son-in-law of Lady Playter, said that the prisoner had from his childhood been received on terms of intimacy in the family of her ladyship. He dined with them, and was treated as a gentleman on the Wednesday before he committed the offence now charged against him. On the morning of the 6th instant, the witness was called up in haste by the servant, who exclaimed, "For God's sake, sir, get up; Mr. Grist has been here and taken away all the plate." Upon inquiry it was ascertained that the breakfast-table had been stripped of a silver tea-pot, silver salt and teaspoons, and a gravy spoon, the property of Lady Playter; and a pair of boots, a meerschaum pipe, surgical instruments, and some shirts, belonging to the witness himself, had been carried off. The prisoner had apparently worn the boots away, as he left his own behind him. A handbill was produced, and also the *Police Gazette*, advertising the prisoner, and offering 5*l.* reward for his apprehension, upon a charge of stealing a horse which he had hired from Mr. Croft, of Whitechapel, on the 7th instant, giving his name Smith. The horse was at Yarmouth, but the prisoner had offered to sell it, and had disposed of Mr. Croft's saddle and bridle, and received an inferior saddle. Brennan, a constable of the metropolitan police, N division, who had been in search of the prisoner for the robbery at Lady Playter's, produced the stolen meerschaum pipe which the prisoner had left with some of his linen at the Bull Inn, Aldgate. He had been there two days, and breakfasted there on the morning of the robbery at Dalston; and placing the silver spoons, &c. on the table, told the waiter that he had just come ashore, and had brought his plate with him for safety, as there were sad thieves on board of ship. These articles he pawned soon afterwards for 2*l.*, but the tea-pot had been pawned in the Hackney Road about half-an-hour after it was stolen. Lady Playter, who appeared to be exceedingly affected by the prisoner's misconduct, proved that it was her property. The prisoner, who did not offer any defence, was remanded, for the production of the rest of the property, and completion of the evidence for his committal.

MANSION HOUSE. — EXTRAORDINARY CHARGE OF MURDERS. — On the Lord Mayor taking his seat on Thursday morning, a young woman, named *Sarah Dazley*, was placed at the bar charged under the following extraordinary circumstances: — From the statement of Inspector Blunden, of the rural police, stationed at Biggleswade, it appears that the accused has resided for some length of time at Wrestlingworth, a small village about six miles from the former place, and was about to be married last week to her third husband, a young man named George Waldock, the banns having been already twice published in the parish church. In consequence, however, of an observation made by some person to Waldock, to the effect that the accused had already poisoned two husbands, and would very probably serve him in a similar manner, the young man demurred, and sought an interview with the clergyman of the village, to whom he communicated the circumstance. The matter soon got wind, and coming to the knowledge of the authorities, it was determined to disinter the body of the last husband, who died in October, 1842, and subject the remains to a medical examination. Finding this, the woman Dazley absconded from Wrestlingworth, as it was supposed, for London, whither, by direction of the coroner, Inspector Blunden followed her, and succeeded in effecting her capture at the house of a relative near Broken Wharf, Thames Street, on Wednesday morning. A *post mortem* examination of the body had been made; and in a letter received this morning, it was stated that large quantities of arsenic had been discovered in the deceased's stomach. It was further suspected that the accused had been concerned in the death of her first husband, and also a child whom she had by him.—The Lord Mayor inquired if a warrant had been issued.—Inspector Blunden said the inquest had not been held when he left the country, and he was not prepared with a warrant; his object was to convey the accused back to Wrestlingworth, at which place the adjourned inquiry would take place on Friday. The prisoner, who throughout the proceedings maintained the utmost indifference, was then removed from the bar, and will be conveyed to Biggleswade in custody.

THE COMET.

The following letters from our most eminent astronomers have appeared in the "Times."

Sir, — I wish to direct the attention of your astronomical readers to the fact, which I think hardly admits of a doubt, of a comet of enormous magnitude being in the course of its progress through our system, and at present not far from its perihelion. Its tail, for such I cannot doubt it to be, was conspicuously visible, both last night and the night before, as a vivid luminous streak, commencing close beneath the stars kappa and lambda ($\varkappa$ and λ) Leporis, and thence stretching obliquely westwards and downwards, between gamma and delta (γ and δ) Eridani, till lost in the vapours of the horizon. The direction of it, prolonged on a celestial globe, passes precisely through the place of the sun in the ecliptic at the present time, a circumstance which appears conclusive as to its cometic nature.

As the portion of the tail actually visible on Friday evening was full 30° in length, and the head must have been beneath the horizon, which would add at least 25° to the length, it is evident that, if really a comet, it is one of first-rate magnitude; and if it be not one, it is some phenomenon beyond the Earth's atmosphere, of a nature even yet more remarkable.

Collingwood, March 19. J. F. W. HERSCHEL.

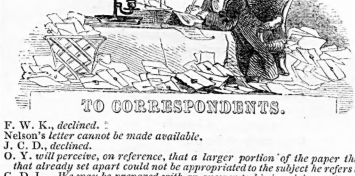
P.S. Had there been any post last night, this communication would have been made a day earlier.

8 p.m., March 19. — The tail of the comet, for such it must now assuredly be, is again visible, though much obscured by haze, and holding very nearly the same position.

The following notices afford some further information of the phenomenon: — The brilliant train of light was seen here on Friday evening at a little after 7, and had very much the appearance of the tail of the comet of 1811. Its highest point, when I first saw it, nearly reached theta Leporis, and passing through the constellation Eridanus, became invisible to me from interposed trees when about 9° degrees from the horizon. More than 45° degrees of tail were measureable; stars of the 5th magnitude were visible through it by the naked eye, and with a 42-inch achromatic of 2¾ inches aperture, those even of the 8th were perceptible. At 7h. 33m. 22 sec. (sidereal time) a bright meteor issued from the very tip of the tail. No trace of the above light could be detected here either Saturday, Sunday, or Monday nights, in consequence of cloudy weather. This evening (Tuesday), at about 10 minutes before 8, the clouds cleared away; but no vestige of the train could be perceived in the neighbourhood which it had illumined on Friday night; but a diffused and amorphous light, commencing at the Pleiades, and spreading over the entire constellation Aries, even through the haze, was too conspicuous to escape observation. If this be the tail of the comet, it indicates a very rapid motion of it northward. By a letter which I received yesterday from Mr. Shorts, of Christchurch, Hampshire, he has seen it earlier than any one I have yet heard of, inasmuch as he observed it three nights previous to the date of his letter, which is the 19th inst.; hence he saw it Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Observatory, Kensington, March 21. 11 at night. J. SOUTH.

ON THE RECENT ASSERTION OF AN HONOURABLE MEMBER, THAT FORTY PER CENT. IS TAKEN OUT OF A MAN BY MARRIAGE.

Forty per cent. by marriage taken!
'Tis half the entire man — or very nearly.
The theory itself at once explains
If the alleged reduction is in brains;
For 'tis a fact that seven or eight in ten
Members of Parliament are married men!
And if the strange hypothesis be true,
That marriage to the man such harm will do,
How many (judging from their lack of wit)
Who in the House of Commons sit,
(The calculation is extremely nice)
Have very probably been married twice.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.

F. W. K., *declined.*
Nelson's *letter cannot be made available.*
J. C. D., *declined.*
O. Y. *will perceive, on reference, that a larger portion of the paper than that usually set apart could not be appropriated to the subject he refers to.*
G. D. L. *We may be prepared with an answer to his inquiries next week.*
Mr. Henry Dowell Griffiths, *to whom we replied last week, and who again addresses us "Citizen Editor," must be pitiably ignorant of newspaper regulations and of the Law of Libel when he absurdly asks if articles will be inserted provided "the writers are answerable for the contents of them."*
J. L., of "Seven Houses." *Verily we could only urge the popular plea of monomania were we to admit within our columns the proposed novel from the binine authoress of the "Gypsey Girl" and her* Gypsey Parent. *We thought this dark complexioned literature had ceased to exist, and that Hannah Maria Jones was long ago consigned to the tomb of oblivion with Mary Anne Radclyffe and the Minerva Press. Our correspondent tells us, as a tempting bait, to speculate in his proferred wares, that "the GypseyGirl" sells for a guinea (!) and that 36,000 copies have been disposed of,—thrice the sum once voted for national education. However, Lord Ashley is abroad, but so long as a copy exists of the 36,000, his labours will not cease.*

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

HAMPTON SPRING RACES.

"Rings now are made at Moulsey Hurst."

There was laughing sunshine and sweet air, larks carolling in the skies, Strawberry Hill, Pope's villa (or where it used to be), and fifty other pleasant things to welcome those who descended from the metropolis on Tuesday last to the Spring meeting on Moulsey Hurst. This affair, albeit but a moderate third class, according to its turf "rate," is always looked to as a gala on a small scale, the last anniversary being the most brilliant it has yet known. After the fever heat of Reaction and the Chester Cup, and the nervous anxieties felt about the fête of "our broder" the *British Yeoman*, it was a real comfort to wander by the stream of silver Thamis, and wish that certain people would half-a-dozen feet beneath her surface. In Yankeedoodledom race-courses have long been private ventures, and here they will be so presently, if every speculation of the sort answers as well as at Hampton. We like the manner of management at places thus situated. No pragmatical committee-men there set their faces against honest industry: the diligent hellite receives every facility, and countenance is shown to the hard-working men of the pea and thimble. . . . . To confine ourselves, however, to our proper boundaries — to keep the course, in fact, we will suppose it close upon two o'clock — the hurst occupied by equipages of various kinds, the four-in-hands of the bold dragoons reminding us how Olympies ought to be graced, and the performances of their owners on the box and elsewhere, how ribbons should be handled. The opening race of the day — the Barrack Stakes — brought out a field of eight, and with a slight allowance for costume (one or two of the riders exhibited in their shirts, which, indeed, might have been called their *buff*), the *ensemble* was good. It was a contest of heats, both of which Remnant won, quite in a slap-up Robinson style; none of your "common canters," but "on the post by a head." The Albert Stakes did not fill — it can't be always raining bumpers — but the Middle Park Handle Race brought four to the post, and gave us a very dashing achievement, as it was fitting. The favourite was Lord Drumlanrig on his horse Cardinal; and he kept the promise by beating his foes like a true knight. There were eight hurdles to be jumped, which all accomplished safely save Mr. Beauchamp on "Jim along Josey;" these being ill-assorted in name did not agree in nature, the master being noble and the steed a bit of a cur. They had a smashing fall, but there the evil ended. After a deal of huckstering we had a handicap, and a famous struggle for it, which Chummy won; and thus between fine weather,

fine sport, savoury pies and champagne, we continued to kill time in a tolerably artistical manner.

TATTERSALL'S LIST — THE WEEK'S BETTING.

People having come to the conclusion that there is a robbery of some sort intended on the Chester Cup, bet cautiously about it. Reaction is no longer backed, and general business is very slack. For the Derby things are pretty much as they were, save that it is believed the "British Yeoman" has become the property of Mr. Gully.

MONDAY, MARCH 20.

CHESTER CUP.
10 to 1 agst Marius (taken)
12 to 1 agst Alice Hawthorn
13 to 1 agst The Corsair
14 to 1 agst Marshal Soult
17 to 1 agst Millepede
20 to 1 agst Fireaway

DERBY.
15 to 2 agst A British Yeoman
16 to 1 agst Maccabeus (taken)
17 to 1 agst Murat
25 to 1 agst Aristides
30 to 1 agst Languish colt (taken)
35 to 1 agst Cataract
35 to 1 agst Cotherstone
40 to 1 agst Amorino
40 to 1 agst Newcourt
45 to 1 agst Cornopean
50 to 1 agst Lucetta colt (taken)
50 to 1 agst Gamecock (taken)
50 to 1 agst St. Valentine (taken)
50 to 1 agst Progress colt (taken)
50 to 1 agst Dumpling (taken)
50 to 1 agst Highlander (taken)
50 to 1 agst Chotornian
1000 to 15 agst Mercy colt (taken)
1000 to 10 agst Tom Slape (taken)
1000 to 10 agst Captain Cook (taken)
1000 to 10 agst Gaper
500 even between Progress colt and Parthian

OAKS.
9 to 2 agst Maria Day.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23.

DERBY.
7 to 1 agst A British Yeoman
16 to 1 agst Maccabeus
18 to 1 agst Murat
25 to 1 agst Winesour
25 to 1 agst Aristides
30 to 1 agst Cotherstone
35 to 1 agst Amorino
40 to 1 agst Napier
40 to 1 agst Newcourt
50 to 1 agst St. Valentine
66 to 1 agst Game Cock
66 to 1 agst Fakeaway

CHESTER CUP.
12 to 1 agst Marius
13 to 1 agst Corsair
14 to 1 agst Soult
20 to 1 agst Queen of the Tyne.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

DEVONPORT, March 21.—The Sappho, 16, was commissioned yesterday by the commander, the Hon. George Hope. The Spiteful steam frigate, Commander T. Maitland, is detained in consequence of some alterations in her steering apparatus. She is lying at the island. The Ranger packet-brig, Lieut. Com. Pearce, was paid off this morning. The Styx steam-frigate, Capt. E. T. Vidal, has sailed for the Azores.

In Hamoaze in commission.—Caledonia, San Josef, Sappho; Sylph and Netley tenders; Alban and Confiance steam-vessels; Devon, Tortoise, and Duck lighters.

PORTSMOUTH.—In the contemplated reduction in the navy, it is stated that the Lords of the Admiralty have not the most remote intention of reducing the crews of the ships in commission to what is termed the "peace establishment."

A statement has been set afloat, upon the alleged authority of a private letter, that a "serious misunderstanding has arisen between Vice-Admiral Sir W. Parker, G.C.B., and Rear-Admiral Sir Thomas Cochrane, in consequence of Sir W. Parker not having struck his flag, and resigned the command of the fleet in China to Sir Thomas Cochrane, who was sent out to supersede him." There is not the slightest foundation for this injurious report, as there is the most perfect understanding and friendly feeling existing between the two Admirals. Sir Thomas Cochrane was not sent out to supersede Sir W. Parker, but to act as second in command as the increased naval force which was despatched from this country to reinforce the squadron in China rendered such additional appointment necessary.

The Inconstant, 36, Captain F. J. Michell, arrived at Spithead from the Mediterranean station—last from Barcelona; she will be paid off as soon as possible and re-commissioned. The Rodney, 92, Capt. Robert Maunsell, C.B., arrived from Lisbon; she is under orders to fit for the reception of the 7th Dragoon Guards, conveying them from this port to the Cape of Good Hope. The Apollo troop frigate, Capt. Frederick, is shortly expected at Spithead from China, with one company of the Royal Artillery on board, and several naval and military invalids. The Vanguard, 80, Capt. Sir David Dunn, and the Herald, 26, Capt. Joseph Nias, are hourly looked for; the former ship from the Mediterranean, and the latter from China, with near 2,000,000 dollars on board. The Tyne, 26, with the Racer, 16, and Dolphin, 6, are shortly to be commissioned at this port.

PROMOTIONS.—Lieutenant: G. C. Briggs, to be commander.—Mates: R. Dalton, C. B. Strong, Horace Bullock, W. H. Symons, B. Young, M. Boucher, to be lieutenants.—Second Master: J. Ball, to be master.—Assistant Surgeons: Alexander J. Pilmor, J. Phillips, A. L. Tuck, to be surgeons.

SEIZURE OF A FRENCH SMUGGLING CUTTER.—Her Majesty's revenue cruizer, Eagle, commanded by Lieut. Ray, R.N., whilst cruizing off Gad Cliff, near Lulworth, suddenly captured Le Vif, a French smuggling cutter, from Cherbourg. She had a crew of six Frenchmen and two Englishmen; and, shortly after she was captured, the Eagle picked up, immediately in her wake, 134 four-gallon tubs of foreign spirits, evidently her cargo, which had been in the water but a few minutes; the whole were in single tubs, slung for the convenience of carrying away. The crew have undergone an examination before the magistrates, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment and hard labour in the house of correction at Dorchester.

SHIPPING.

DEAL, March 23.—Sailed, the Luxtano, for Rio Janeiro; North Esk and Venelia, for Trinidad; George Canning, for Quebec; Union, for the Mauritius.

PORTSMOUTH, March 22.—Arrived, the Eendraght, Halingen, from Havana, with bows stove, bowsprit carried away, loss of sails, &c., having been in contact, off Cape La Hogue last night, with a ship, name unknown. The New Holland has been laid higher up on the beach, and her cargo is being discharged.

SHEERNESS, March 22.—The Jane, from Patras to London, in making Standgate Creek, got on the Nore Sand, but is expected off.

PORT TALBOT, March 22.—The Restless, from Path Cawl, ashore near Skir Point, is a total wreck; the materials will be saved.

FALMOUTH, March 22.—Arrived, the Hope, from London to St. John's, N.B., with pumps choked.

PLYMOUTH, March 22.—Arrived, the Walsington, from Newcastle for Rochfort; crew in a state of mutiny.

GREENOCK, March 19.—The Anna, Dixon, from Liverpool, has put back with damage, having been in contact with the Hamlet, from Trinidad.

BRITISH FUNDS.
CLOSING PRICE—THURSDAY.

Bank Stock for Op.	184½ 4 5	India Stock for Acc.	268½
3 per Cent. Red.	—	India Bonds	74
3 per Cent. Con.	96⅝ ½ ¾ ⅝	Consols for Account	96¾
3 per Cent. Anns. 1751	—	1000*l*. Ex. B.2d	65 7 4
3½ per Cent. Red.	—	500*l*. do.	67 5 4
New 3½ per Cent.	102¼ ⅛ ⅜ ¼ ⅝	Small do.	65 7 0
Long Anns. 1860	—	1000*l*. Ex. B. 1¾d	67 5 4
30 years, 1860	—	500*l*. do.	67 5 4
South Sea New Anns.	—	Small do.	67 5 8

There was a very brisk market for Cotton at Liverpool yesterday, the sales having increased to 10,000 bales. On speculation about half this quantity was taken, and for export 1000 bales of American, which quality ranged from 4*d*. to 4½*d*. per pound.

The probability of an extensive emigration this year from the United Kingdom becomes of great interest in proportion as the distress of the industrious classes is more intense. At Greenock the desire to emigrate to Canada seems on the increase, but it is not expected there will be an extensive movement until the latter end of April or May. As regards Ireland, we understand that a good many persons intend emigrating; and from other sources we learn that the chief emigration from England will be from Dorsetshire, Devonshire, and Bedfordshire.

The English funds are still rather flat. Consuls for immediate transfer realise 96⅝ to 96½, and for time 96¾ ⅝. Exchequer Bills are 65*s*. to 67*s*. premium; and India Bonds 74*s*. premium. New Three-and-a-Half per Cents. are 102¼ to 102⅝. Bank Stock has recovered a little, being 184 to 184½.—The Foreign Bonds have been only moderately active. Spanish Five per Cents. are 22¼ to ½, and the Three per Cents. 31⅛ to ⅝; Mexican have not been dealt in this morning. Colombian have obtained 26 to ⅛, and Buenos Ayres, 29¾ to 30. The Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents. are 55⅝ to ¾.

Of Railway Shares there is but little to be said, the business being limited, but the quotations are certainly lower. Great Western New, are 19; Birmingham, 108 to 110; Ditto New, 33½; South Western, 23⅝; and South Eastern Scrip, ¼ to ⅜ prem.; Brighton are 13¼ to 14⅞; Blackwall, 10⅝ to 10½; Eastern Counties, 13⅛; Northern and Eastern, 10; and South Eastern, 24⅝ to 24⅞ dis.; London Joint Stock Bank Shares are 3¼ prem.; National Provisional Bank of England, ½ prem., and Provisional Bank of Ireland, 18 prem.

MARKETS.

AVERAGE WEEKLY PRICES OF CORN, &c.—Last Week, Wheat, 47*s*. 6*d*., Barley, 27*s*. 11*d*., Oats, 17*s*. 4*d*., Rye, 26*s*. 10*d*., Beans, 26*s*. 8*d*., Peas, 28*s*. 6*d*. Average of Six Weeks, Wheat, 47*s*. 11*d*., Barley, 27*s*. 4*d*., Oats, 17*s*. 2*d*., Rye, 28*s*. 5*d*., Beans, 26*s*. 10*d*., Peas, 29*s*. 4*d*. Present Duty, Wheat, 20*s*., Barley, 9*s*., Oats, 8*s*., Rye, 11*s*. 6*d*., Beans, 11*s*. 6*d*., Peas, 11*s*. 6*d*.

REGENT'S PARK HAYMARKET.—Fine upland meadow and rye-grass hay 87*s*. to 92*s*., inferior ditto, 65*s*. to 80*s*., superior clover, 105*s*. to 108*s*., inferior ditto, 80*s*. to 90*s*., straw, 51*s*. to 53*s*. per load of 36 trusses.

NEWPORT NEW WHOLESALE MARKET.—Prices per 8 lbs. by the carcase: Beef 3*s*. to 3*s*. 4*d*., mutton, 2*s*. 8*d*. to 3*s*. 4*d*., veal, 2*s*. 8*d*. to 4*s*., pork, 2*s*. 8*d*. to 4*s*.

SMITHFIELD HAYMARKET.—Fine upland meadow and rye-grass hay, 85*s*. to 90*s*., inferior ditto, 60*s*. to 75*s*. superior clover, 105*s*. to 110*s*., inferior ditto, 85*s*. to 95*s*., straw, 50*s*. to 52*s*., per load of 36 trusses.

NEW HUNGERFORD MARKET.—Fishmarket: Turbots, 5*s*. to 15*s*., brills, 2*s*. to 10*s*., codfish, 3*s*. to 8*s*., whitings, 6*d*. to 1*s*., mackerel, 6*d*. to 9*d*., red mullets, 4*s*. to 6*s*., crabs, 2*s*. 6*d*. to 3*s*., and lobsters, 1*s*. to 3*s*. each.—Poultry, Game, and Meat Markets: Turkeys, 5*s*. to 12*s*., goslings, 6*s*. to 7*s*. 6*d*., fowls, 2*s*. to 3*s*., capons, 3*s*. 6*d*. to 6*s*., chickens, 3*s*. to 3*s*. 6*d*., ducklings, 4*s*. to 4*s*. 6*d*., rabbits, 1*s*. to 1*s*. 6*d*., hares, 2*s*. 6*d*. to 3*s*., guinea fowls, 2*s*. 6*d*. to 3*s*., and pigeons, 10*d*. to 1*s*. each. Meat, per lb.: Prime legs of mutton, 6½*d*., shoulders, 5½*d*., necks, 5*d*., and breasts, 3½*d*.; beef, veal, and pork in proportion. Supply good, trade middling.—Haymarket: Fine upland meadow and rye-grass hay, 85*s*. to 90*s*., inferior ditto, 60*s*. to 75*s*., superior clover, 100*s*. to 108*s*., inferior ditto, 80*s*. to 90*s*., straw, 50*s*. to 52*s*. per load of 36 trusses.

TEA.—About 18,000 packages passed the sale on Thursday; of these about 3500 only were sold, at prices much the same as yesterday. Congou, best middling, rather strong, 1*s*. 2*d*. to 1*s*. 2¼*d*.; souchong, middling, 2*s*. 10*d*., ordinary old and smoky, 10*d*. to 10¼*d*.; young hyson, best midding pref. rather strong, 2*s*. 1*d*.; middling to good middling, 2*s*. 6½*d*. to 2*s*. 6¾*d*.; good middling, 3*s*. 6*d*.; pekoe, middling, rather strong, little old, 2*s*. 4*d*. to 2*s*. 4½*d*.; twankay, good middling, rather strong, best 1*s*. 10½*d*. to 1*s*. 11¼*d*.; imperial, best middling and rather strong, and coarse best, 2*s*. 4*d*. to 2*s*. 4½*d*. per lb.

SUGAR.—A floating cargo of white Pernambuco was sold at 27*s*. per cwt., to be delivered at Trieste. The British plantation market is firm, but not much business doing.

TALLOW.—The market is less animated, but prices are not lower. The deliveries continue to be very good.

THE LONDON GAZETTE—FRIDAY, MARCH 17.

BANKRUPTCIES SUPERSEDED.—L. GOODMAN, Tottenham-Court-Road, draper.—J. COLEMAN, Birmingham, victualler.

BANKRUPTS.—J. COOKE, New-street, Dorset Square, upholsterer.—E. MESSUM, Portsea, Southampton, brewer.—G. CLARK, Crawford Street, Bryanston Square, boot and shoe maker.—R. BODDINGTON, Liquorpond Street, Hatton Garden, ironmonger.—C. HARRISON, Red Lion Street, Holborn, victualler.—T. CHESLETT, Gracechurch Street, hosier.—R. HALLS, Colchester, fishmonger.—J. PARRY, Haverfordwest, draper.—W. ECCLES, Much Woolton, Lancashire, grocer.—R. DEMPSEY SOTHERN, Saint Helens, Lancashire, ship-builder.—H. LAYBOURN, Hartlepool, Durham, ship-broker.—JOHN WOOD, WILLIAM WOOD, JOSEPH WOOD, SAMUEL WOOD, GEORGE WOOD, and JOSHUA WOOD, Millbridge, Liversedge, Yorkshire, machine-makers.—T. BAGSHAW, Buxton, Derbyshire, innkeeper.—F. ALLEN, jun., Booden, Staffordshire, brickmaker.—C. SCOTT, Newcastle-under-Lyme, currier.

THE LONDON GAZETTE—TUESDAY, MARCH 21.

CROWN OFFICE.—Members returned to serve in this present Parliament:—

Borough of Tavistock—John Salusbury Trelawney, Esq., in the room of J. Rundle, Esq., who has accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.—Borough of Ripon—The Rt. Hon. Thomas Berry Cusack Smith, of Merrion Square, Dublin, her Majesty's Attorney General for the kingdom of Ireland, in the room of Thomas Pemberton, Esq., who has accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.—S. PRESLAND and H. J. OSBALDISTON, Castle Court, Laurence Lane, City, warehousemen.

BANKRUPTS.—E. MESSUM, Portsea, Southampton, brewer.—J. FALERS, Colchester, Essex, hair-dresser.—W. HOPKINS, Farringdon Street, butcher.—B. GRAY, Acton Place, Kingsland, flour-factor.—H. JOLLEY, Castle Hedingham, Essex, tailor.—C. S. MASTERMAN, Croydon, grocer.—T. DURRANT and G. BANKS, Wilmington, Kent, bakers.—G. HERRING, Rochdale, Lancashire, iron-founder.—P. T. B. HEMBROUGH, Wakefield, worsted-manufacturer.—J. W. CULLIS, Clun, Shropshire, chemist.—J. T. BRADLEY and W. BRADLEY, Leeds, ironmongers.—T. BROWNLOW, jun., Marton Port, Lincolnshire, malster.—T. BOOTH, Guisborough, Yorkshire, innkeeper.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS

BIRTHS.—On the 20th inst., at Paris, the lady of Captain George MacCall, of a daughter.—On the 21st inst., at Tunbridge Wells, the wife of W. H. Wall, Esq., of a son.—On the 21st inst., at Epping, the lady of the Rev. Richard Sale, of a daughter.

MARRIED.—On the 5th inst., at the Palace Chapel, Valetta, Malta, by the Lord Bishop of Gibraltar, Lieutenant Sharpe, R.N. of her Majesty's ship Howe, eldest son of the late Benjamin Sharpe, Esq., of London, Banker, to Marianne Fanny, eldest daughter of the Rev. E. Montague, of Swaffham, Norfolk: the bride and bridegroom left Malta the same day for Sicily and Naples.

DIED.—In Weymouth Street, aged 50, the Rev. Robert Anderson, Perpetual Curate of Trinity Chapel, Brighton.—On the 21st inst., at his residence, No. 1. Ulster Place, Regent's Park, deservedly respected and much regretted, Mr. G. Raggett, in the 80th year of his age, for many years the proprietor of "White's," St. James's Street.—In Tavistock Square, on Friday, March 17, John Hull, M.D., F.L.S., &c., at the house of his eldest son, W. W. Hull, Esq.—On the 17th inst., at Hampton Court Palace, the Hon. Robert Talbot, aged 67.—At Brighton, on Thursday, the 23rd instant, Mary, dowager Marchioness of Northampton, aged 80 years.

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THE TIMES.

On Saturday, Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by Prince Albert, visited and inspected the contents of the Museum, and expressed great satisfaction with what they saw, and at the manner of the general arrangement. On Monday and Tuesday the place was thronged by the nobility, and yesterday there was a private view to men of literature and science. This collection, the result of great expense, and a residence in China of 12 years by Mr. Dunn, the proprietor, is amongst the most curious ever opened in London. It is a complete illustration of the manners, customs, history, and religion of an immense empire but imperfectly known to Europeans. It ought, and no doubt will be visited by many thousand persons; indeed, by all persons at all interested in the events which are now in development in China. There is an immense collection of all sorts of things connected with the manufacturer, the modes of living, the costumes, the domestic economy, and the state of the arts in China; there is something to please all inquirers.

MORNING POST.

The Queen was struck with the gorgeous appearance of the apartment, which is 225 feet in length and 50 in breadth, with lofty ceilings, supported by numerous pillars. The appearance of the room is that of China in miniature; nothing is foreign to the subject; all is Chinese. At the present hour, nothing in the way of exhibition could well be more acceptable to an English Public than such a mass of matter, illustrating the life and manners of a nation so intimately brought into collision with us. However, the room is so crowded with gorgeous and interesting specimens of Chinese civilisation, that it will be impossible to do more, in our first notice, than give a general eulogium on its character, and assert it to be the most attractive exhibition of its class which has yet been opened in London.

MORNING CHRONICLE.

We can only say, in conclusion, that a visit to this Museum will amply reward the most sanguine expectation, and will convey to the British Public a general knowledge of the resources and capabilities of the singular people to whom it refers. It is an exhibition quite unique, and a collection which could only be perfected by the perseverance, tact, and taste of the proprietor, and by the opportunities enjoyed by him during a long residence in the Celestial Empire.

THE SUN.

Neither England nor the Continent has any thing equal to this superb miniature museum, with its hundreds of objects, gathered from every quarter of China. To attempt specification of the innumerable articles distributed in the cases about the apartment would be utterly vain; the curious eye, however, will detect an infinitude of choice, beautiful, and often antique specimens in each and all.

ATHENÆUM

The merits of this Exhibition cannot be appreciated in a single visit; it is at once a guide to the history of the largest empire, and the mind of the most numerous nation known to history. From the moment that we pass the entrance, we feel that we are in a new world. The spacious saloon, its elaborate carvings of screen-work, the embroidered silks floating from its columns, the immense decorative lanterns suspended from its ceilings, and the magnificent display in the cases disposed through the whole length of the room, seem to realise those imaginings of the gorgeous East which have haunted us like dreams of childhood. We seem to be in the China of the "Arabian Nights," a realised world of fancy, and we remember about in a state of doubtful consciousness, what we see mingling with what we dream, until it is scarcely possible to distinguish observation from speculation.

COURT AND LADIES' MAGAZINE.

But to give the reader anything like an idea of the variety of curiosities which are so admirably and tastefully laid out at this Exhibition, it would be necessary for us to write a volume, and that, too, of no mean dimensions.

NEW MONTHLY BELLE ASSEMBLEE.

In conclusion, we may safely assert, that not all the *Lettres Edifiantes* and other works of the Jesuit missionaries—the laboured descriptions of Van-braam, Du Halde, or Grosier—the books which resulted from Lord Macartney's and Lord Amherst's several embassies—the elaborate researches of Plaproth, or the more modern incubrations of Gutzlaff, Medhurst, and Davis—were all these works attentively studied, could give the reader a more vivid or accurate impression of the domestic and general condition of the Chinese than this extensive collection well examined, by the help of the clever and complete catalogue which belongs to it.

LITERARY GAZETTE, &C.

We cannot do more justice to the surpassing attractions of this Exhibition than quote the following passage from the letter of an officer, than whom there could be no better judge. He writes after a visit,—"In fact, it is an extraordinary exhibition, of which the mere descriptive catalogue (although in itself a well written book) gives you but a very imperfect idea. The proprietor deserves the greatest credit; for really I saw more in China in that saloon than I did during the two years I was with the expeditionary force in the rivers and inner waters of the country itself."

JOHN BULL.

There are materials sufficient in this collection to occupy a daily visitor profitably for months, and to amuse the mere curiosity seeker, without fear of the penalty of a single yawn, for the entire day. There is here gratification for all classes; while he who has enjoyed, and made the most of the large number of opportunities of becoming acquainted with the peculiarities of different people, will derive most pleasure from examining the curious objects here brought within his reach.

NAVAL AND MILITARY GAZETTE.

It must be understood that this is not an imitative exhibition, fabricated in Europe; but that it is, in all its parts, *bonâ fide* the production of Chinese art. We were accompanied in our visit by a military friend who had long sojourned in China, and who pointed out to us the different localities in an instant, which he assured us were so perfectly represented that he could almost imagine himself again on the very spot.

TRUE TABLET.

Distance and exclusiveness have done for China what time has done for Egypt, and Mr. Dunn's collection is an opening of the catacombs, to which, however, we despair of doing justice by description. Let not the reader miss Mr. Dunn, during a residence of twelve years in the Chinese empire, to observe and to collect the means of instructing us, less by words than by "things;" and to his popularity among that exclusive and bigoted people, quite as much as his indefatigable industry and wealth, is owing the stupendous and unparalleled museum of which we have now to speak. * * * We would fain say more, but our space forbids; and we therefore conclude with an urgent recommendation to all who would be instructed through the pleasantest of media, that they lose no time in visiting the Chinese Collection.

BRITANNIA.

As to the merits of the collection itself, we can only repeat that the highest praise and most ample encouragement is due to the taste, liberality, and perseverance with which it has been gotten together, and that its spirited proprietor is entitled to the thanks of the whole European community.

OBSERVER.

Altogether the Chinese Collection, now on view at Hyde Park Corner, has not had its equal, in point of real value, as an exhibition, since the days when Sir Hans Sloane's collection laid the first foundation of the British Museum as it exists at present.

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